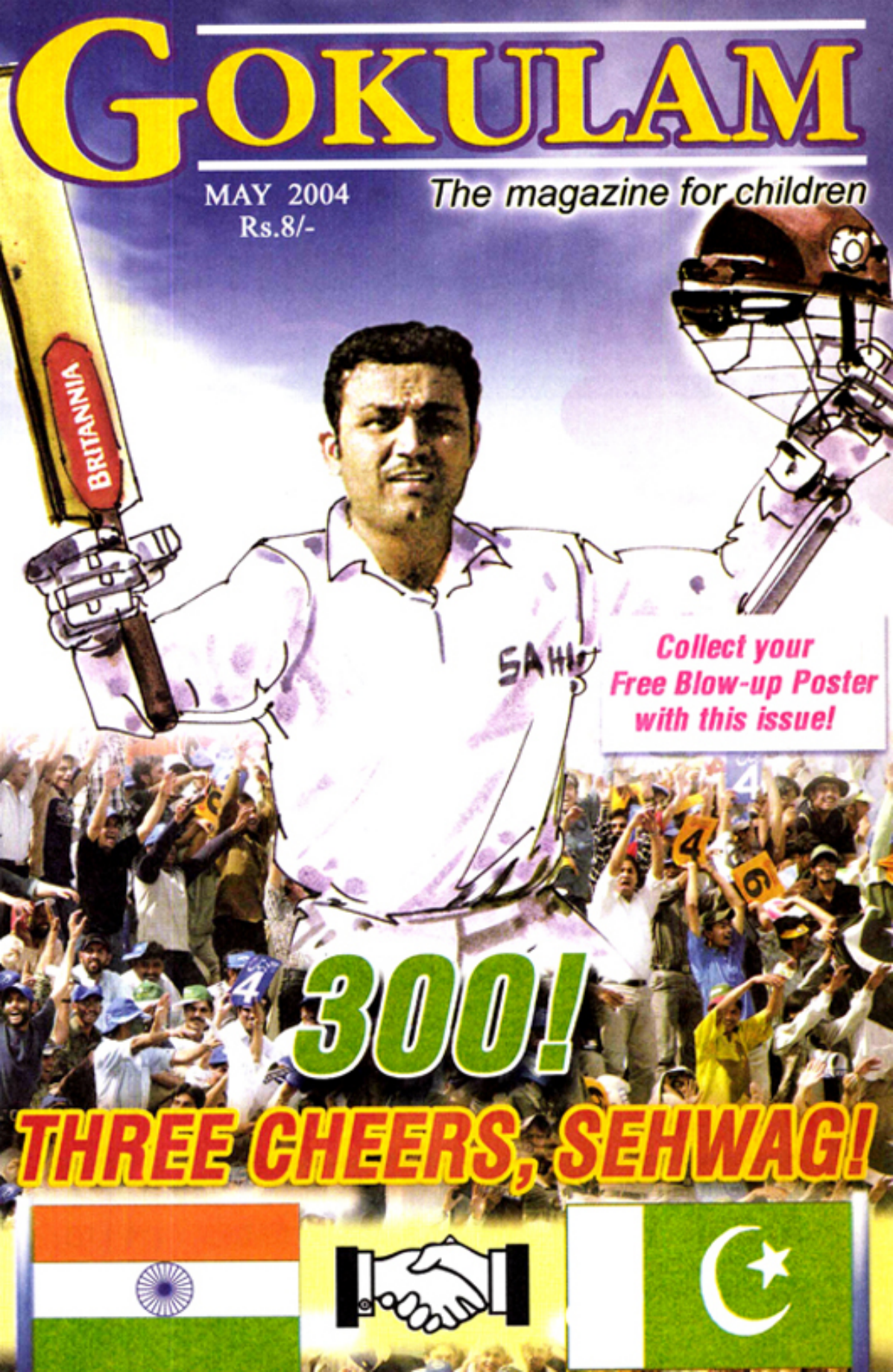
GOKULAM

MAY 2004
Rs.8/-

The magazine for children



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GOKULAM

May 2004
Vol. XVI, No.11

Of all created things the loveliest,
And most divine are children.
-William Canton

Star Rendezvous
KONERU HUMPY 56

CRICKETERS' PROFILES 40&49

Attention Subscribers

This free poster on pages 41 to 48 has been pinned to the main book. Please remove it with care.

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A BLOW-UP POSTER WITH THIS ISSUE!

GOKULAM

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The Magazine for Children

Admire your adversary!

Dear Reader,

Naturally you were overjoyed when Sehwag became the "Sultan of Multan" by crossing the three hundred run mark in the first test against Pakistan. You jumped with joy because he was the first Indian to join the triple century club. But what was your reaction when Brian Lara became the first person to score 400 not out in a Test?

The question is important especially in the Cricket special issue of Gokulam and you have to answer the question truthfully to yourself. Did you feel the same elation by Lara's feat as you did when you watched Sehwag reach his triple century? Was there atleast a streak of admiration in your heart for the Pakistani bowler Shoaib Akhtar when he dismissed Sehwag off the first ball of the innings in the third test?

Most games, especially cricket carries an element of luck, besides skill, determination and teamwork. You have to learn to admire these without being partisan. You can enjoy the art of batting not only with Sachin but also with Inzamam and Lara. If you watch closely, you will realize that each one has a distinct style of his own, which is as beautiful as a dance performance!

Unfortunately we have not learnt to admire our opponent, the way we should. Our aim should be to win, but we should also give our rival team its due credit.

Our leaders too should show us the way. But they don't seem to. When India clinched victory by a glorious innings and 52 runs over Pakistan, all our leaders, including the Prime Minister congratulated the winners. But did they say, "better luck next time" to Pakistan? Did they congratulate the Pakistan team for their determined success in the second test? I think not. Please correct me if I am wrong!

- Editor

VERY INTERESTING ARTICLES

✉ I like the serials, 'The Guava Tree Caper' and 'The white flower adventure'. I find a lot of positive changes in the new Gokulam as compared to the very old issues. The 'Penpals' column is found only in Gokulam which makes it unique.

- Varsha, N.
Bangalore

✉ I enjoyed reading the April issue, especially 'Career Guidance'.

- Rohit Mane, Mumbai

✉ I found all the articles very interesting! The case file was exciting. Smile a while made me laugh a lot. Viewpoint is indeed thought provoking.

- V. Varsha,
Pondicherry

✉ The April issue was exciting. I loved the case file, the poster and short stories. Now that my exams are over, I am free to read Gokulam!

- K. Suganya, Chennai

✉ The poster in the April issue is mind blowing!

- Chetana, Kerala

✉ The article 'Global warming' in the March issue was great. It helped me to prepare well for my speech on 'Environmental destruction' in my school. I loved solving the puzzles too.

- J. Manoj Kumar, Chennai

Dear Parents and Children,

We have appointed **India Book House Pvt.Ltd.** as our exclusive distributors for Gokulam in India beginning from the issue dated May'04. They will cover all areas in India except the southern states of Karnataka, Andhra, Tamilnadu, Pondicherry, Kerala and Andaman and Nicobar Islands. This arrangement is bound to facilitate easy and quick availability of the magazine in the Northern belt.

Please do continue to extend your fullest co-operation and valuable support. For any assistance regarding non-availability of Gokulam, you may get in touch with **M/s. India Book House Pvt. Ltd, 412, Tulsiani Chambers, Nariman Point, Mumbai- 400 021** or write to us directly.

PUBLISHER

✉ The Guava Tree Caper is truly turning into a thriller! I also liked the cartoon strips of Tintin and Popeye. I have a great collection of posters on my bedroom wall, all thanks to Gokulam!

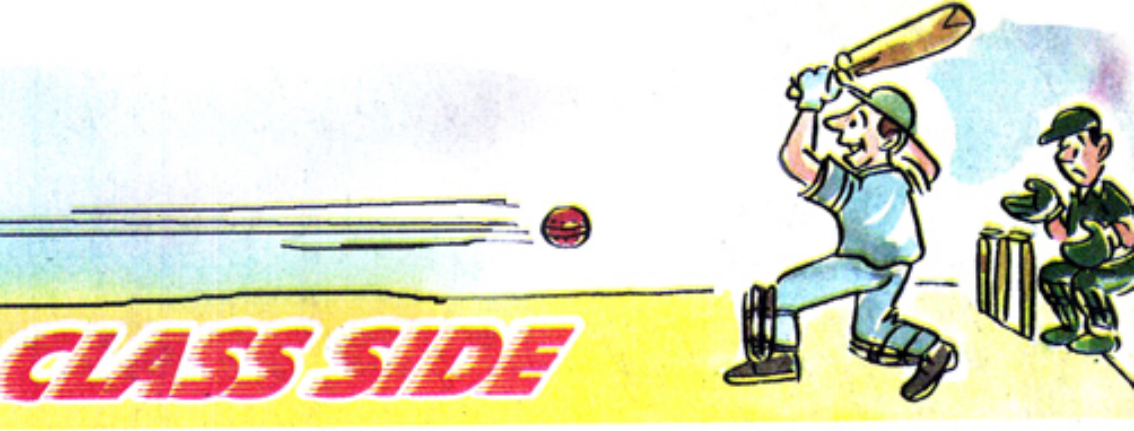
- N. Raghavi,
Madurai

A TOP

"India wins the series, Pakistan wins hearts" – thus read the cover of a popular magazine. True, the series was played with magnificent sportsmanship; true, "Inzi" was gracious, and his words at the end of every match were those of a perfect gentleman, and true, Pakistan fought tooth and nail to deny their neighbours a victory – but the fact is, remove all the hype and everything the media went crazy over, and one solid fact remains – India won a brilliant series, and have really proved themselves a top class one-day side, not far behind Australia.

Since most readers would have been glued to the TV during the series, I'll skip the summaries of the matches, and instead focus on where the Indian team stands now with respect to the rest of the world. In Australia, India pulled off an upset – they didn't win the Test series, but drawing a series in Australia is more than any other team has achieved in the recent past, and more than any team can achieve in the near future. No longer the underdogs when they stepped on Pakistani soil, they now had to maintain the reputation they had etched for themselves. And boy, did they do that well! Under pressure on several occasions, with some players missing due to injury, these boys refused to look at the negatives, and kept focusing on the positives that they had so delightfully

* Wrapper - Photo : The Hindu
Illustration : Shyam



CLASS SIDE

ABHINAV RAMNARAYAN

discovered Down Under.

Probably India in Pakistan is a better team than the one that played in Australia. The difference? Irfan Pathan. What makes him special is that he is wonderful to watch. Zaheer Khan pounds in with steady rhythmic paces, Ashish Nehra rushes in for the attack, but Pathan just flows in, and the ball rolls off judiciously placed fingers. It whirs in the air just around the seam at a sharp pace, and it usually skids off the surface reasonably close to the bat. Witness the dismissal of Shahid Afridi in the third one-day international. Afridi played across the line, and found that a ball heading for second slip had curved in beautifully. It took the off-stump with it en route to the keeper. What a difference Pathan makes to the side– I cannot remember a bowler in India given more attention apart from Harbhajan Singh for a short spell, and certainly no

pace bowler since Kapil Dev. No more turning off the TV or picking up the newspaper if the opposing team wins the toss and decides to bat!

At the time of

writing this, the Test series is nicely poised at 1-1. This is actually fairly surprising given that India have a better side. The Pakistan bowling attack is penetrating but unpredictable. Unlike the blend of subtlety and brute pace (Waqar Younis and Wasim Akram), both Akhtar and Sami are hit and miss bowlers – either they tear through the attack or they go for plenty. And honestly, pace alone shouldn't trouble the Indian batting line-up (witness the manner in which they took Brett Lee apart). So it isn't surprising that Omar Gul, who extracts bounce and movement off the wicket, was the bowler who took the wickets.

In the batting department – well India are up there with Australia, and quite a distance ahead of Pakistan, who are leaning heavily on the implacable Inzamam-ul-haq and Youhana. Can "Inzi" pull a Brian Lara or an Andy Flower, and carry the entire batting burden on his shoulders? I don't think so. So unless Sami and Akhtar really come to the party, India ought to have an excellent chance of victory in both forms of the game.

The participants: ***Yashwanth, S.Shruthi, Naresh Kumar, R.G.Divya - students of Std.XII SRM School, Chennai***

We wish to thank the panellists for taking time off from their exam studies to sit in for this discussion. The ball was set rolling by Gokulam:

'Every school admitting girls should have a girls cricket team'.

There was instant reaction:

"No! Definitely Not! The girls don't know any thing about cricket. Why should there be a girls team in school?" Naresh Kumar was the first to respond.

"Why not? We are also equally interested in watching and playing the game," replied Shruthi vociferously supporting her sex!

" Give us one good reason why girls shouldn't play?" asked Divya.

"Why should girls play cricket of all games? There are hardly enough resources in school to maintain a boys cricket team, why bother with a girls team also?" retorted Yashwanth.

"Let the schools solve that problem. What is your objection?" returned Shruti.

"Personally speaking I have no problems with girls playing cricket!" admitted Yashwanth

"What a volte-face Yashwanth! You are supporting the girls!" chided Naresh.

"No… it's just that… let them also play if they want!" said Yashwanth.

"Anyway what exactly do you boys know about women's cricket? Did you know that the World Cup for women's cricket started before the mens'?" Divya asked with a knowing air.

"Really!" asked Naresh, impressed. "When and where was it held? Did India participate?"

"It was held in 1973 in England.Except India about six to seven teams participated."

YOUNGSTER'S FORUM

"When did India start playing ODIs?" asked Yashwanth, interested inspite of himself!

"India hosted the second World Cup in 1978. There were only four teams playing this time," replied Shruthi.

"Anyway we are discussing about girls cricket in schools, so let's stick to the topic," said Naresh trying to put the girls at a disadvantage.

"The girls can't hit properly, they don't have enough stamina," he continued.

"Of course not! That's a lame excuse. We can hit very well thank you," replied an annoyed Shruti. "It's a game played by girls like any other say, basketball or hockey. So why is there so much fuss about girls playing cricket?" she demanded.

"Because it is such a rough and tough game. Standing in the sun the whole day is not easy. That's why girls usually don't take it up as a career," put in Yashwanth.

"Of course not! What about Hockey? It's even more strenuous and is very much played in the hot sun. These are lame excuses you boys are giving!" burst out Divya. "Not all boys want to play games, only some are interested in sports and take it seriously. Similarly there are certain girls who are interested in playing cricket or other games."

"There are cricket teams for girls in colleges. So why not wait till college days?" said Naresh trying to pacify the girls.

"Said just like a boy! Why should we wait so long? We want to play in school itself," replied Shruti stubbornly.

"Why should there be so much debate? Just go ahead and play cricket! The Indian Women's cricket team is doing very well! That by itself is enough inspiration for girls to take up cricket. If enough girls show interest, the schools will have to organize things for them!" said Yashwanth reasonably.

** L to R : Naresh Kumar, Yashwanth, S.Shruthi, R.G.Divya*

On that positive note from Yashwanth, we took leave of them. The heated arguments a thing of the past, the four of them started discussing their entrance exams most amicably!

Pictures : **SriHari**

D-O-B/ZODIAC SIGN : *02/12/81 Sagittarius*

STYLE : *Left Hand Bat/ Left Arm Orthodox*

COACH : *B.Arun*

STARTED TRAINING AT : *Nelson Cricket Club run by Swathi & Palani*

FAVOURITE BATSMAN : *Viv Richards / Rahul Dravid*

FAVOURITE BOWLER : *Shane Warne/Bedi/Srinath*

HOBBIES : *Reading biographies and autobiographies of cricketers, music, internet, hanging out with friends*

FAVOURITE FILM STARS : *Aamir Khan / Kajol / Denzel Washington / Catherine Zeta Jones*

FAVOURITE MUSIC : *Old Hindi songs/Western*

INSPIRATION : *Father Sivaramakrishnan and uncle - both yester year Ranji players*

Achievements:

- *Only Indian to achieve the rare feat of scoring a century at the 11th position in the Ranji pre-quarter final against Delhi.*
- *Taken two hat tricks in two matches.*
- *Highest wicket taker in the ODI and tests in the home series against England.*
- *Was in the Under-19 team which won the World Cup in Sri-Lanka in 2000.*
- *Captained Under-22 and won the All India Championship in Cuttack.*
- *Scored 1000 runs and taken 500 wickets in Ranji Trophy matches.*

VIDYUT
SIVARAMAKRISHNAN
WINGS

DOES A WORKING MOTHER MAKE A BETTER PARENT?

The topic is really undebatable. A mother's efficiency should not be decided on the basis of her work, ie, whether she is employed or at home.

It is a well accepted fact that every mother is very much concerned about the well - being of her child. A mother working in an office and another managing her house are doing equally important and tiring jobs. A mother is bound to be loving and caring of her child.

- Shruti Mukundan,
Std VIII, D.A.V. Kolkata.

The child of a working woman may get all the material things - right from toys to computers - but hardly mother's love and attention. The child spends most of the time in a creche/ school / tution centre, and there is little time for the child to interact with parents. 'Home -made' market foods are the evening snacks instead of mother - made delicious and nutritious ones. Television watching is the child's favourite pass - time and moral stories told by the mother is unknown. Servant maid and autorickshaw man are the child's favourite elders. These mothers will attend parent teacher meetings only if it's on Sundays. The child will be happy only on days when holidays coincide for both mother and child. Hence I feel working mothers do not make better parents.

- S. Vaishnavi, Std IX,
J.G.M.H.S.S. Chennai

Every child looks up to its mother as a source of comfort when in pain and need. Besides, the economic situation also is a major factor in a family. A man can only get a house for the family, but it is the woman who makes it a home. It is she who assesses the domestic requirements to run a family. Mother is the embodiment of sacrifice for the sake of her children. A child is sure of seeing betterment in life if his/her mother is a working woman. Therefore a working mother definitely

makes a better parent.

- A. Krishnakumar,
Std IX, N.P.H.S, Bangalore

Today's world is progressing at a rapid pace and so are the people. It is better for a woman to do a job than sit idle at home. I think that a working mother makes a better parent. Both my parents are working but I've never felt deprived of their love and affection. My parents have been good friends to me. A working mother is more active and quick in doing her work. If the mother is at home and looks after each and every need of the children, they will be excessively pampered and become lazy. A working mother provides opportunity to the children to do their work on their own and this makes the children independent.

- T. Sireesha, Std IX,
St.Agnes School, Kharagpur

A working mother has a more wonderful, responsible and interesting personality. She develops a broad and practical outlook towards life. She will be aware of what is going on in the world and she will make her child aware of it too. Not only the child but the entire family benefits. She supplements the family income and shares the

burden of the head of the family. Due to the rising cost of living it has become imperative that both parents work. Observing the mother's dual role, the child becomes more responsible and independent. The mother is able to bring out the child's talent by being more aware of them. So, a working mother definitely makes a better parent.

- Nisha Nandakumar, Std IX,
K.V. Chennai

QUESTION FOR THIS MONTH

The month of June is school time once again after a long gap of holidays. But with it comes the lugging of huge school bags, resulting in bent shoulders and back pain.

'Weighty Schoolbags-What is the solution?'

(Send in your views as soon as possible. Your views will be published in the June Issue. Also don't forget to include details of your age, class and residential address. Published entries will receive a special remuneration of Rs.25/-)

Mayajaal, Chennai has organised a summer camp for children this summer in its 'The Champ' Sports Village. Sporting activities like Cricket, Golf, Tennis and Swimming take place. There are 24 batches planned in a span of 8 weeks. The duration of each camp is 6 days. The camps are conveniently placed in the mornings, afternoons and evenings. The camp has been organized under the guidance of Mr.Krishnamachari Srikkanth. He has hand picked the expert coaches in the different fields. He will present merit certificates to all the participants at the end of the 8 weeks of camp. We met the first batch of children completing their camp. The ages of the children ranged from 6 to 16 years.

What was the camp like? What did you learn?

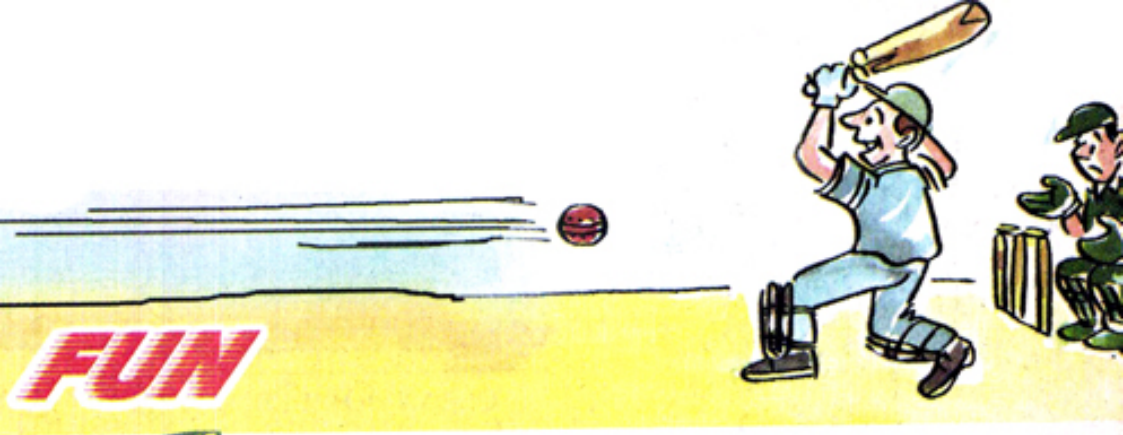
Rahul : We were given a lot of practice in batting and fielding.

Rohit : Yes, we also did a lot of exercises like sprinting and other warming up exercises.

Did you have net practice? Who was your coach?

Chaitanya : No. There were no nets. We just played in the Cricket ground. Our coach was Mr.Arun.

Did they provide you with the cricket kit?



FUN

Narayanan : Yes, they gave us the bat, ball, guards etc. Every item except helmet which was anyway not required.

Rahul: I have my

* Pictures : SriHari

own kit as I have my regular coaching at Robin Singh's Spin Mach Academy. Since the camp there is starting only by April 14th I joined this camp to stay in practice. We have not been playing for the last two months due to exams.

Rohit: I have my own kit too. I am also going for regular coaching in Kedar's Cricket Academy. My camp too starts the same time as Rahul's so I joined this camp for practice.

Akhilesh : I stay in a residential school so I'm provided with all the cricket gear.

Do any of you play for your school?

Rahul, Rohit and Akhilesh(in chorus): We are all in the school team.

Rahul(proudly):I am the vice-captain.

Aditya : We have a good team in school. I want to be a spinner in my school team.

Their favourite cricketers ranged right from Virendra Sehwag to McGrath and Irfan Pathan to Adam Gilchrist! Most of them were interested in both batting and bowling, especially fast bowling! Their hobbies ranged from football to volleyball to basketball.

Vikash : I am in the swimming camp. I already know swimming well, so this was just a brush up of my techniques.

There were two more girls who were in the swimming camp. Another little boy was in the shuttle camp. Most of the children have joined this camp just to stay in touch with cricket/shuttle/ swimming as a hobby. They were all unanimous in their praise of the camp!

FUN

CLEAN BOWLED TWICE!

The record for a duck in each innings was achieved by Peter Judge of Glamorgan in the match against India at Cardiff. The last man in, he was bowled first ball by Chandu Sarwate.Glamorgan was asked to follow on. In order to save time, Judge and his partner, J.C. Clay stayed on at the wicket to open the Glamorgan second innings. Sarwate, clean bowled Judge again, first ball!

MEALS ON TIME!

George Gunn, a famous Nottinghamshire batsman was quite an eccentric and very particular about meal timings. When he'd see his wife arrive to watch the game, he would hit a six near her to indicate that he would be joining her. Soon after, he would get himself out!

FIRST CENTURY BY AN INDIAN

When Lala Amarnath scored 118 against England at Bombay years back, it was the first test century by an Indian batsman. Spectators were delighted and Indian women showered jewellery on him as presents! He also received a car and was presented with a handsome sum of 800 pounds from a millionaire.

- Bipin V. Babu,
Std X, MREC, Kolkata

FACTS

SLAPPED!

In a county match Raju Kulkarni was slapped by the wife of a batsman who was hit on his head by a bouncer from Kulkarni.

- Aniket Venkatraman,
Std XI, G.S.S,
Nagpur

A UNIQUE HAT TRICK

South African test all rounder Trevor Godard managed to achieve a hat-trick without even taking a wicket. The first delivery hit Duncan Fletcher's boot and he was adjudged caught behind, second hit Errol Laughens's pad and he was given out caught - at slip, the third one had Jackie du Preez LBW even though he had lunged a long way forward. Someone reported that the umpire was the first person to congratulate Goddard after the match.

LBW

Pakistan batsman Shoaib Malik became the first batsman ever to be given out LBW by the third umpire. South African television umpire Rudi Koertzen ruled Shoaib had been trapped leg-before in the opening match of the ICCI Champions Trophy, between Pakistan and Sri Lanka at Colombo.

S.Nilesh Kumar, Std.X
H.C.MHSS, Salem

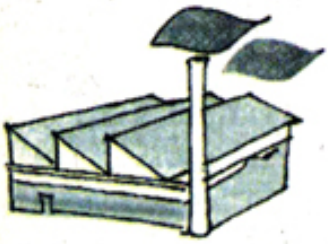
'Conservation of oil, the need of the hour!'

DROPS OF OIL...

Oil, like all natural resources can only be found in certain parts of the world. North America, USSR, Saudi Arabia, the Middle East and North Africa are some of the leading oil producing regions of the world.

In our kitchens, gas and kerosene stoves sometimes burn unnecessarily. Using the pressure cooker and other fuel saving methods help to save gas and kerosene.

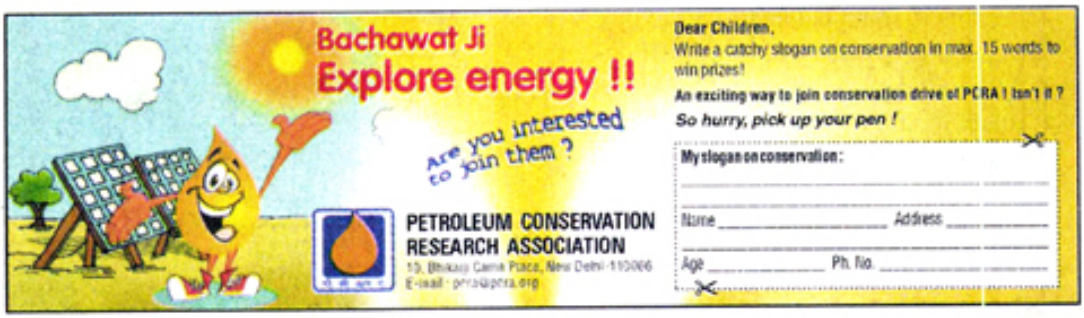
The black smoke coming out of automobiles and chimneys of factories means a big waste of fuel.



In factories and farms, tonnes of precious oil is wasted through bad working methods. Factory workers can, with good techniques and an efficient work pattern, avoid a lot of wastage of oil.

Driving slowly and keeping vehicles

in good condition saves precious petrol and diesel. We can try and avoid using vehicles while travelling short distances. Cycling costs not a drop of petrol.



RICE PAINTING

Materials required:

* Raw rice - 1 cup
* Nail polish remover - 1 tbsp
* Food colouring - a few drops
* Paper
* Fevicol

Method:

1) Take a small cup. Pour the nail polish remover into it. Add a few drops of food colouring. Add rice and shake well. Spread out the rice to dry. Adopt the same procedure to colour more portions of rice in as many colours as you want.

2) Draw any landscape of your choice. Paste the different coloured rice particles, on your picture aptly. When complete, no part of the illustration should be left uncovered.

Be patient! A truly colourful picture can be created with a little effort and time!

- K. Janaranjani, Std X, GRT School, Chennai

CARDBOARD DOLLS

Materials required:

* Cardboard tube from a cotton roll / tissue paper roll
* Two small buttons for the eyes
* A cork for the nose
* Thin cardboard
* Paper
* A small piece of cotton wool
* Glue
* Scissors

Method:

Roll the piece of paper around a pencil and make tubes for the arms. Stick these arms to the sides of the cardboard tube. Glue the cork nose and button eyes in place. Cut ears, hands and feet from the thin cardboard.

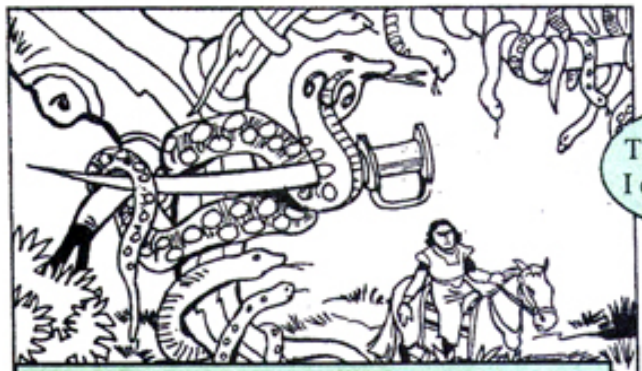
For the hat, cut a circle of paper and then cut a slot from the outside edge to the centre so that it can be made into a cone. Glue it together. Stick it on top of the tube. Use the cotton wool as a pom pom on top of the hat. Colour the doll.

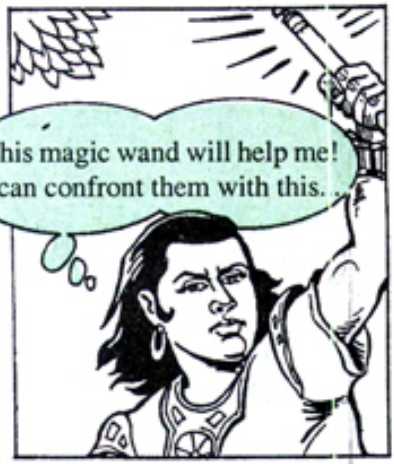
What a lovely doll you have created!

- V. Revathi, Std VII, Holy Angels, Chennai

THE WHITE FLOWER ADVENTURE

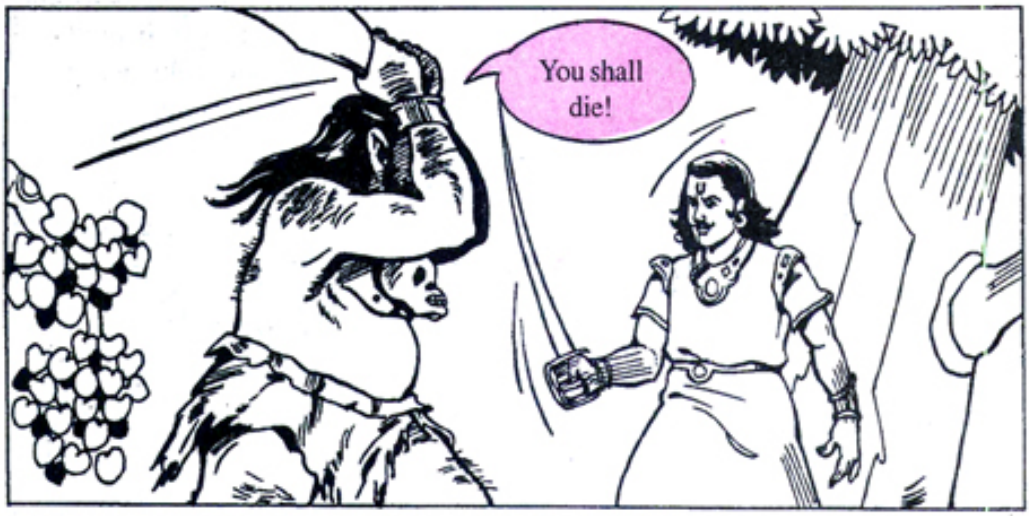
Script: MOHAN. C. Art: C.J. ROY 3

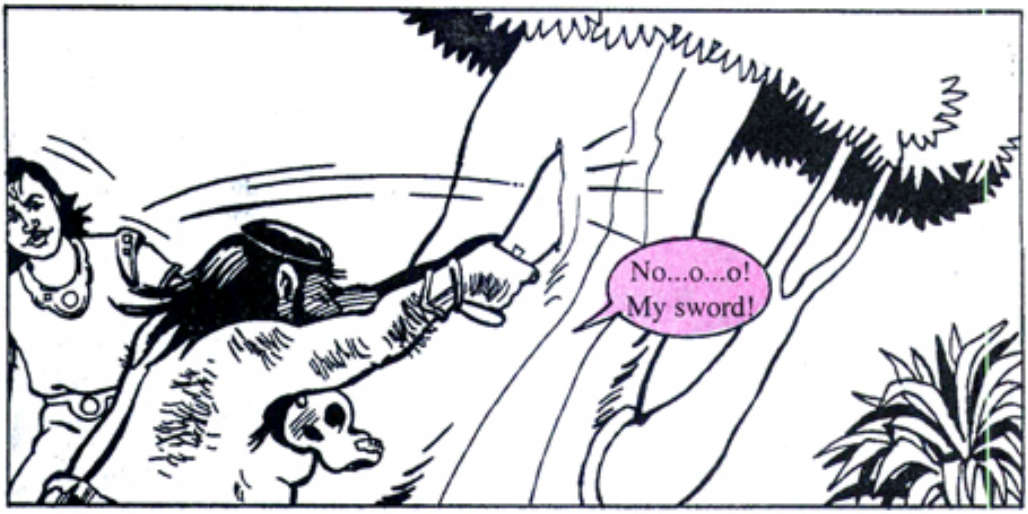




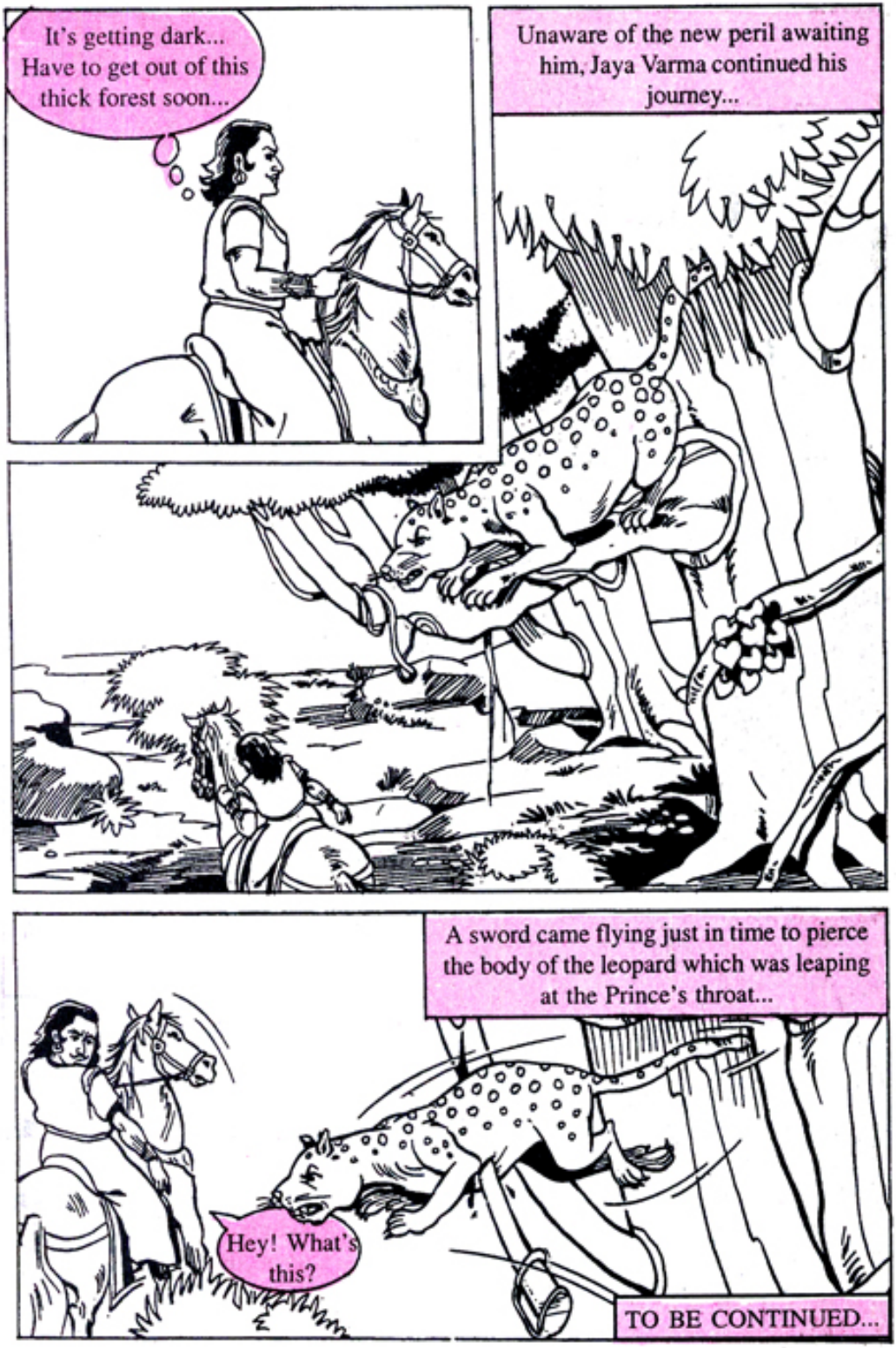
There was a slip unfortunately, and Amar Singh's sword got caught among the snakes. He was stunned but he soon recovered...

Meanwhile, the parrot returned to Jaya Varma...
Amar is safe. He is proceeding towards the black mountain.
That's good news!
Let's rest here for a while and then continue our journey, friend.
That's the best thing to do, Prince...
Suddenly...
Ha... Ha... Ha...! A handsome young man! Today my meal will be very delicious...
The Prince and the demon began to fight...
How dare you raise your sword against me? Take this and this...
Swish...Swish...
Claaangg....


You shall die!


No...o...o! My sword!

Realising that it was unwise to fight with the prince, the demon fled ..


It's getting dark... Have to get out of this thick forest soon...
Unaware of the new peril awaiting him, Jaya Varma continued his journey...
A sword came flying just in time to pierce the body of the leopard which was leaping at the Prince's throat...
Hey! What's this?
TO BE CONTINUED...

"WONDROUS, THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE...

"Today, I am going to teach you about sensitive words," said Ms. Gayatri.

"Sensitive words!" said Abhishek looking round the class to see their reaction. There was none. "Then there must be insensitive words too," said Abhishek.

Ms. Gayatri laughed. "I wouldn't quite put it like that," she said. "But you are right! You call a man who heads a company a chairman. What would you call a woman who heads a company, a chairman or a chairwoman?"

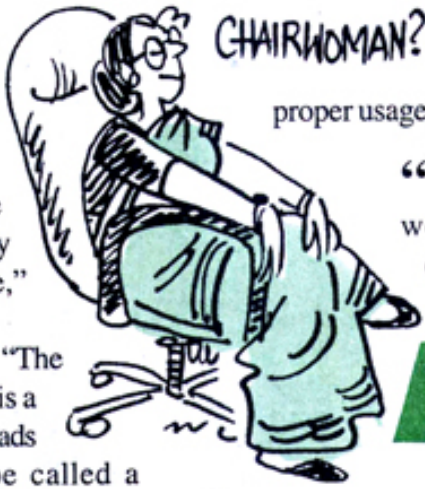
No one was sure except Abhishek. "Why chair woman of course," he said.

Ms. Gayatri smiled. "The answer to my question is a man or a woman who heads a company should be called a chairperson," she said. "We use so many words often without realizing that there is a gender bias in favour of men. Why say mankind when the word includes women also? Isn't it better to say human beings? Why say forefathers? The right word to use would be ancestors.

"Mrs and Miss are words that are sensitive to use," she added.

"Why is that?" asked Darshini.

"When we address a man, say, Mr. Raman, we do not know whether he is married or not. Then why should the marital status of a woman be known with the appendage Miss. or Mrs. attached to it?" replied Ms.Gayatri.



"So what is the proper usage?" asked Darshini.

"The proper appendage would be just Ms.," explained Ms.Gayatri.

MIND

"Then there are words which are offensive to use. Some words that are used to describe racial or ethnic groups are clearly offensive. We no longer use the word Negro. The right word to use is black or African American. The word "coloured" should not be used for people to distinguish them from white skinned people. Today we do not use the word "shudra" or untouchable for a particular caste. Gandhiji

Rude Words	Words you could use
deaf and dumb	A person with a hearing impairment
polio victim	She / he has had polio
cripple	She / he cannot walk
mongoloid	A person with Down's syndrome
handicapped	Persons with disability

called them Harijans. They are also known as Dalits.

"Words relating to age must be chosen with care. Never refer to people as elderly, aged, old etc. Senior citizens and seniors would be a more sensitive way of referring to older people. The words decrepit or senile should never be used.

"Many words are often used for persons with disabilities that convey a negative, or depressing picture.

"There is an interesting story behind the word handicap. One story tells us that the word originated in a lottery game played in the 17th century. It was called Hand-in-cap. The players held forfeits in caps. Another story tells us that people were once allowed to ask for alms if they held out a cap to receive them. The word today means a disadvantage. Sportsmen are sometimes given what is called a handicap, either because they are beginners or too old to play a good game, in order that the contest would be more interesting.

"The word handicapped was used for people with physical difficulties. Now it is rude to say that a person is handicapped because it goes back to the origin of the word: begging, with cap in hand. The terms used now are differently abled, or challenged.

"The word servant maid is commonly used. It is a demeaning word. A better term would be a housemaid, don't you think? And most of us depersonalize the people who work for us. We do not call the gardener, the driver, or the watchman by name. We say, 'Driver, come early tomorrow' or 'Watchman, shut the gate promptly at 10p.m.'

"As I have said before, words are very much like people. They can be sensitive or insensitive. So mind what you say when you say it."

YOUR WORDS

"Any questions?" asked Ms. Gayatri.

"I would like to know ...to know...." began Harini.

"Yes?" asked Ms. Gayatri.

"Since you use the appendage Ms. are you...are you....married?" she asked mischievously.

Ms. Gayatri laughed good-naturedly. "Why don't you find out," she said as she shut her books and prepared to leave the class.

DOWN MEMORY LANE

Lala Amarnath- life and times. The making of a legend.

by Rajender Amarnath

From the day Lala Amarnath held his first bat, costing one paisa, through several controversies including the 1936 England tour and his famous fights against the establishment, his life has been well documented in the book.

"Here is a collection of books for the die-hard cricket fan! Spend your holidays gaining new insights into the life and times of yester year cricketers. The new lot of cricketers have also come out with their autobiographies or have biographies written on them, making good reading as well. Who knows, one of you readers may also grow up to be another Rahul Dravid! On that note we leave you.... happy reading!"

Straight from the heart
Kapil Dev Nikhanj

Dynamic,Positive and inspirational! The historic success of Kapil Dev told straight from the heart literally!

Cutting Edge
Javed Miandad's Autobiography

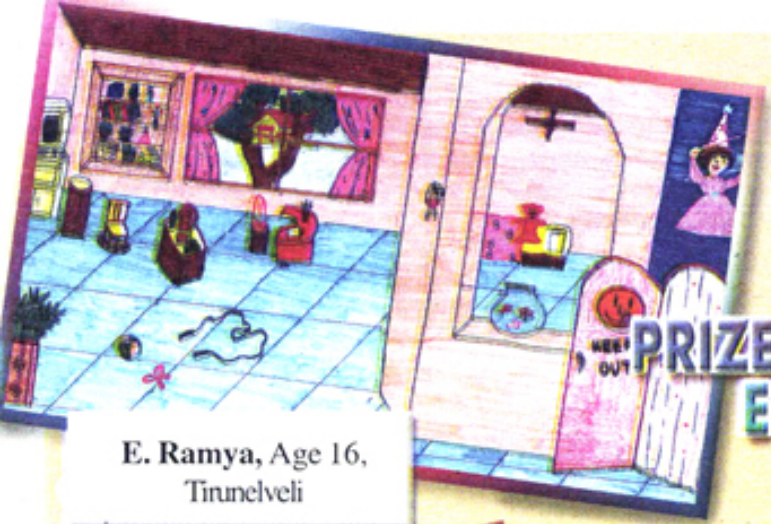
From the streets of Karachi to the great Test centres of the world, from schoolboy wonder to batting legend and international hero, from an enthusiastic rookie to the architect of a nation's cricketing fortunes- here is the Miandad story...in his own words.

Garry Sobers
An Autobiography

In this honest autobiography, Garry Sobers talks about his life and career. He explains how he helped the West Indies to become the most feared cricketing team in the world.

Pictures courtesy: **Landmark, Chennai**

PRIZE-WINNING ENTRIES



E. Ramya, Age 16,
Tirunelveli

Priyanka Sahoo, Std. III,
Loyala School,
Orissa

Here are the results of the 'Design your room' contest. Congratulations children! Your books will reach you soon.

S. Subhashree, Std. UKG,
Mira Nursery School,
New Delhi

Mridul Mohan, Std. VII,
Chinmaya Vidyalaya,
Kannur

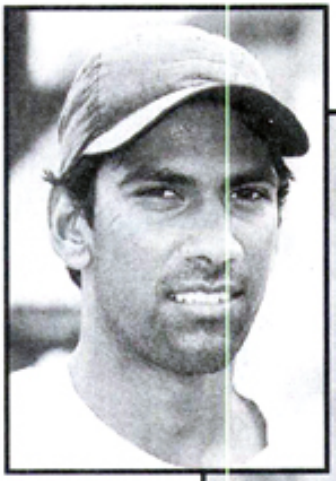
L. BALAJI A FIRE

India's latest addition to the bowling squad, Lakshmipathy Balaji, the Chennai boy is now firing away in Pakistan! Let's read what Mallika and Lakshmipathy had to say about their only son.

"Balaji was very fond of cricket right from when he was ten years old. He used to play in the local teams with a tennis ball!" reminisces father Lakshmipathy, who was a keen cricketer himself. But it was Balaji's uncle Mr.N.P.Balaji who was himself a lead player locally, who took up his coaching. Under his able guidance Balaji soon started playing for district level tournaments.

"It was Mr.Bharat Reddy who inducted Balaji to play for Jolly Rovers Cricket Club of Chemplast, in the senior division league during 98-99. Then he played for Tamilnadu in the Ranji Trophy. He also played against England in the under - 19 team in 2000" says the proud father. "I remember his making his debut in the ODI against New Zealand, at Baroda in November 2002. He also played in the first test against New Zealand at Ahmedabad."

However it was only after playing against Australia in 2004, in the ODI, that he found a berth in the current Indian team for the Pakistan series.



"Balaji is a very quiet and calm person" says his mother. "He would see cricket matches on TV and analyze the bowlers keenly."

"He used to work very hard. Everyday he would go for practice sessions, both in the morning and evening" elabo-

- BRAND BOWLER

S.VISWANATHAN

rates his mother.

Mr. Lakshmipathy is not very sure of the figures, but clearly remembers that Balaji took 5 wickets, 5 times in Ranji trophy matches. His best was a seven-wicket haul against Rajasthan in the Ranji trophy.

"Balaji is 75% a bowler and 25% a batsman. But he batted quite well in the recent one-day matches. Since he is very

dedicated and hardworking, I have no doubt that he will become a good all rounder one day," says Mr. Lakshmipathy brimming with pride. "Balaji is a great devotee of Shirdi Sai Baba. Whenever he is in Chennai, he never fails to visit the Sai temple", says his mother proudly.

"He reads books on sports and biographies of great cricketers. His heroes in cricket are Mc Grath and Tendulkar.

"Balaji underwent a three month course in the National Cricket Academy, Bangalore. Javagal Srinath has also appreciated Balaji's bowling. He trained in MRF pace foundation and has also done a three month course in Adelaide, Australia, at the Heir Cricket Academy in 2003. He has another coach Mr. Manoj of TNCA," concludes Mr.Lakshmipathy.

Balaji has two sisters, both of whom are engineers. We look around for a photograph of L.Balaji but there is only one of him and that too in a batting pose! "Many photographers have taken pictures of him in action but unfortunately we do not have any of his childhood photographs," says his mother a trifle sadly.

IDENTIFY

THE STADIUMS

4

Here are some clues for you to identify the cricket stadiums featured alongside:

1. This stadium boasts of the world's most famous mechanical scoreboard.
It is the largest of all grounds.
The first test played here was in 1884.
India scored 674 here in 1947-48.

2. This is not in Asia or Europe.
It is home to the Pickwick Cricket Club.
The first test played between West Indies and England was played here in 1930.
It has three everlasting records.

3. This is one of the oldest stadiums in Asia.
The first test played here was against Douglas Jardine in 1934.
The 1987 World Cup final was played here.
India declared at 657/7 in 2000-01.

4. It is the Mecca of cricket.
The first match played here was in 1884.
This is the home of the ICC.
India won its first World Cup in 1983 here.

5

5. This cricket stadium is in Europe.
The first ever test match in England was played here in 1880.
England declared at 903/7 vs Australia.
The legend of Ashes was born here.

ANS:
1. Adelaide Oval, Australia
2. Kensington Oval, Barbados 3. Eden Gardens, India
4. Lords, London 5. AMP Oval, London

GOKULAM

The magazine for children

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INDIA'S FIRST WOMAN UMPIRE

Gokulam met this unassuming lady with a brilliant smile and was impressed with her indomitable spirit and courage to excel in women's cricket against all odds!

Gokulam: Hearty congratulations albeit late on being the first woman umpire of our country! Tell us what prompted you to take up umpiring when you were already a successful cricketer?

Ms.Sumathi Iyer: I was already playing cricket and knew most of the rules. But I wanted to get more involved in the intricacies of the game. Hence I decided to sit for the umpire's exam conducted by the TNCA, recognized by the BCCI and the ICCI. Although a tough exam it gave me tremendous self-confidence.

G: You were playing until a few years back. When did you actually start umpiring? Has it been only one-day matches or test matches too?

S: I've always been umpiring even while playing. Except that those were for schools and inter-company matches. From 2000-01 onwards, after I retired from playing cricket, I've been concentrating more on umpiring. I have officiated for hundreds of one-day matches right from league to international matches. I am yet to officiate in test matches. I have been the third umpire for two of the India-NewZealand women's series held in India recently.

G: Have you ever officiated for Men's matches?

S: Only the All India Inter Bank Men's tournament. I was very much appreciated and since then I've been trying to get women umpires to officiate for Men's matches too.

G: Why isn't there so much popularity and money in women's cricket as in Men's?

S: Please don't compare men's and women's cricket. Each has its own identity. Treat each game as a separate entity and you'll start enjoying both versions of the game. As for money and sponsorships, things have indeed got a lot better than what it was during my days. As more and more girls show interest, better the rewards for women's cricket. Ultimately it's the game, which stands to gain.

• Ms.Sumathi Iyer

G: What advice would you like to give to young budding girl cricketers?

S: If you have the passion for the game, go for it! I would also advise the cricketers irrespective of sex to take the umpire's exam. It will make them well versed in the game. Players having good experience of the field and an insight into the psyche of the players will make good umpires. We need young blood to inject more enthusiasm into the game. This would go a long way in popularizing the game.

POKEMON

I. Pokemon Word Search

Attention all Pokemon trainers! A total of twenty Pokémon words are currently loose on this puzzle page! The words are hidden diagonally, vertically, or horizontally; and are read either backwards or forwards. We have already found Kakuna for you!

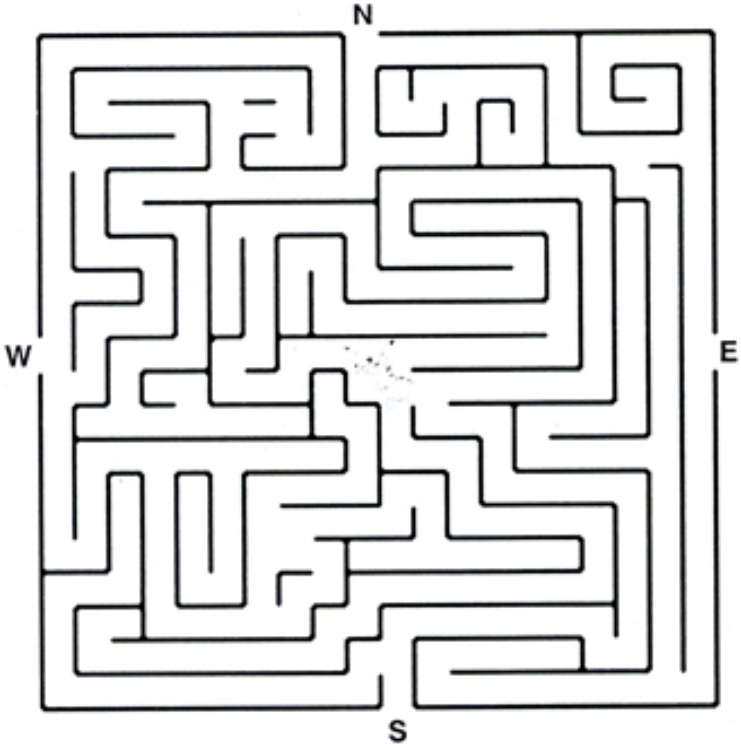
Can you find the other nineteen words and add them to your collection?

K	U	M	S	K	A	C	H	D	O	P	A	T	E	M	U
U	H	H	A	E	E	Z	W	O	R	D	O	D	L	E	W
N	K	A	C	K	M	A	G	B	E	E	U	E	D	W	D
I	I	U	R	A	G	S	T	E	R	W	Y	X	E	D	E
N	P	N	P	O	K	E	D	E	X	E	R	U	E	M	W
E	R	T	N	K	U	I	E	D	Y	E	A	E	W	Y	U
T	A	E	R	A	D	S	P	R	S	J	T	S	A	R	H
A	K	R	U	N	Y	G	T	I	V	Y	S	A	U	R	C
I	I	A	Y	M	L	A	O	L	Y	N	I	M	K	A	H
L	G	E	K	E	T	T	R	L	P	X	E	G	P	I	R
S	A	R	M	W	S	A	I	D	O	W	X	A	N	K	A
N	M	J	I	A	A	T	J	Y	T	E	R	N	O	J	I
I	N	Y	L	U	G	R	G	W	D	O	D	U	O	Y	C
H	U	B	L	W	T	M	O	T	W	G	Y	K	Y	N	H
D	A	I	L	A	R	E	A	P	O	D	N	A	U	J	U
O	R	U	Y	M	E	N	E	R	G	Y	C	K	I	N	G

SPECIAL

II. Pokémon Monster Maze

Can you find Pikachu at the center of the maze? You have to find your way from the outside of the maze to the center where a Pokémon lies trapped! You can start from the East, West, North or South gate. Can you successfully navigate the maze and add Pikachu to your Pokémon collection?



Answers on page: 58

Rhyhorn

Hitmonchan

Koffing

Machop

Sandshrew

PITCH

In the midst of the sprawling, lush green cricket ground of the M.A.Chdambaram Stadium, Chennai, Gokulam met Mr.Kannan Parthasarathy, the ground supervisor, for a chat.

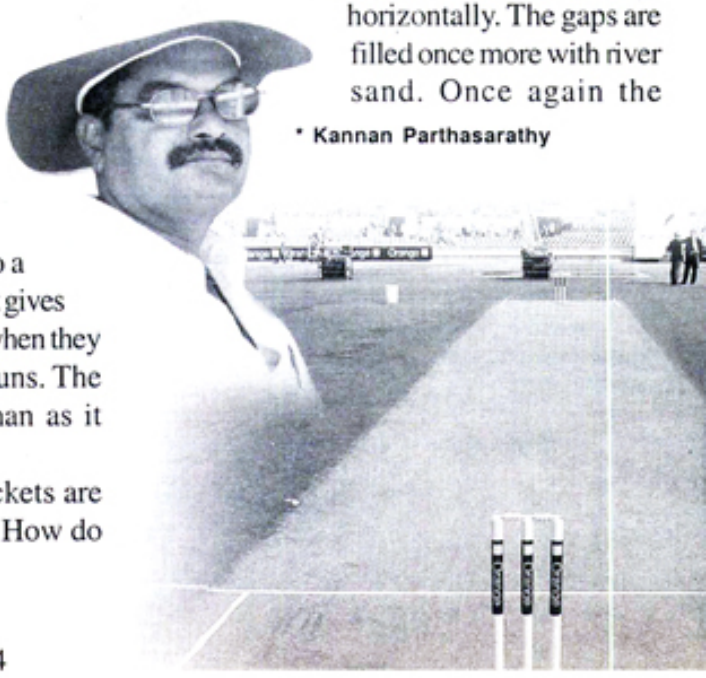
Mr.Parthasarathy is the son of Mr.Kannan, who was himself an All-India Cricket coach for a while. Earlier he was a player at the zonal level with the Tamil Nadu team. He was an expert pitch curator too. Mr.Parthasarathy succeeded his father in 1972 and since then has been in charge of the ground and the pitch.

Gokulam: What is the height of the outfield grass?

Mr.Parthasarathy: We grow the outfield grass up to a maximum height of six mm. It gives the fielders, a cushion effect when they dive to the ground to save runs. The grass also helps the batsman as it allows the ball to travel fast.

G: It is said that the wickets are 'prepared' before a match. How do you do it?

P: Before we ready the pitch, we have to prepare the outfield. We use a mixture of sand, red earth and manure to lay the outfield. As for the wicket or pitch, a good foundation is needed. So we dig up the wicket area to a depth of fifteen inches. It is then filled up with river sand to a height of three inches. This is followed by blue metal of one and a half and three fourth inch thickness respectively. Water is poured and a vibrator is used to consolidate. On top of it we lay nine inch bricks vertically as a first layer. The gaps are filled with river sand. Again bricks are laid, but this time horizontally. The gaps are filled once more with river sand. Once again the



• Kannan Parthasarathy

UNCOVERED!

CHARUKESI

vibrator is used to consolidate. A three-inch layer of red sand is laid finally and watering is done. We use the vibrator one more time to make the wicket harder. We let it rest awhile. The surface is loosened for a little over an inch and filled with locally available black clay.

G: So, now is the pitch ready?

P: No. We have yet to come to the important part of laying the grass. It is a special variety of grass called the 'Hybrid Bermuda Grass' or the G-2 grass. With regular watering the grass grows fast. Then comes the part of the Roller. We use less than quarter ton roller both length and breadth wise so that the grass is cut close and forms a kind of net. Then the grass is cut with imported lawn mowers. We allow the grass to grow for 45 days and then use the one-ton roller on it. After a further period of sixty days, with regular watering and rolling, the wicket will be ready. At times the two-ton roller is also used.

G: How are different pitches prepared to suit fast bowlers, spinners and batsmen?

P: For a fast wicket, the grass is rolled heavily with enough watering. This makes the surface hard. So, the bowler will get the seam and extra bounce too. For a turning track, we remove all the grass, do less rolling and less watering, to keep the surface dry. This helps the ball turn. As for a batting wicket, we let the grass grow well, roll it with a heavy roller and water it well. But just before the match, all the grass is removed so that the surface becomes good and hard which will make the ball come straight to the bat.

Photographs : **Venkatesh**

SERIAL 5

THE GUAVA TREE CAPER

"It's a good thing you've been punished for getting henna paste onto Goldy's coat accidentally!" Suren tried to cheer up his sister, Anita. "Gopu can't go out anyway as there are three villainous men looking for him. And now you have to stay indoors too."

Last evening, Anita had been punished after she had confessed that she was responsible for the ugly brown patches on Goldy's coat. This morning, she looked grim as she went about preparing the herbal remedy for removing the patches.

"This paste has to be left on for at least eight hours so that it restores Goldy's coat back to its original golden colour," she commented, daubing bits of paste onto the dog. "I hope the paste is not stinging him. I can feel a sort of mild burning on my fingers."

"Gopu, please don't stand near any of the windows," Suren cautioned, seeing his cousin pace the room agitatedly. "I don't want any of the three villains who were chasing you yesterday to find out that you are the boy who broke into Miss Kokila's compound and disappeared with a box of chocolates! If you are careful, you can easily spend the rest of your holidays without being discovered."

How wrong Suren was! For, Gopu was to be betrayed in the next few minutes by a most unexpected person. The children's father, Mr. Suresh Ratnam, was driving to work when he saw his precious tennis racquet propped up near the stool the watchman was sitting on.

He stopped the car and demanded that his racquet be returned. The kids could hear raised voices as the watch-

man refused to hand over the racquet, saying it belonged to a tall, thin boy with spiky brown hair.

"That's my nephew Gopu who has come here for his summer holidays from Senji. I wonder why he took my racquet and why he jumped over the wall into Miss Kokila's garden as you claim," Mr. Ratnam remarked when the watchman had told him the whole story, "Anyway, I'll find out from him in the evening." Taking his racquet back very firmly, Mr. Ratnam

slammed his car door and sped away.

Within a short while, the motorbike with the two sinister looking men from Sensei Couriers screeched to a halt near Miss. Kokila's gate and as the children peered out from behind the curtain, three pairs of eyes were trained threateningly on their house. As the children expected, their doorbell rang a few minutes later.

The children sat silently in the living room, too scared to make a sound while Goldy padded into the room and lay down on the sofa after giving them a questioning look.

The bell rang again and this time someone hammered on the front door and a rough voice said, "We know you are in there. We don't want to hurt you. Just return the chocolates you were given by mistake."

Holding a quick whispered conference, the children ran around looking for the chocolates.

"Oh no! The chocolates are not on Anita's writing table where I left the box," Gopu sounded frantic.

"Give us the chocolates and no harm will come to you," said another threatening voice as the door was pounded more aggressively this time.

It was Anita who spotted the box of chocolates, because she noticed that Goldy was now suddenly standing next to the living room table wagging his tail hopefully.

Relieved, they put the chain on the front door and Gopu handed the box out to the three men, after which he hurriedly slammed the door shut behind him.

But the men were not satisfied. They pounded the door violently again and shouted, "You little cheats. You've stolen one of the chocolates. Give it back at once."

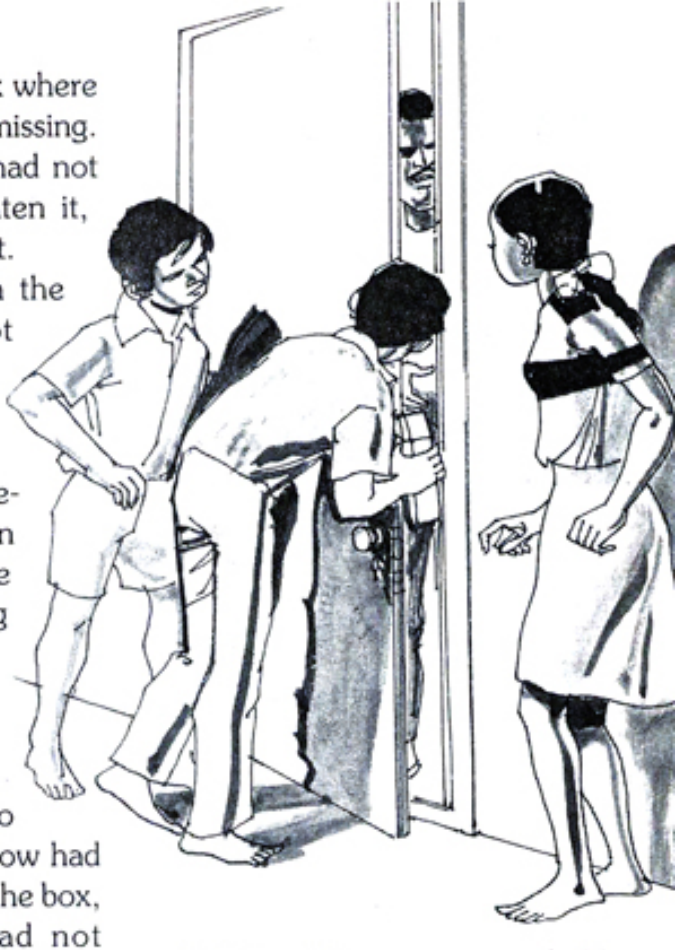
"We haven't stolen any chocolates!" the children replied in alarm. "Show us the box."

In their panic, they unlatched the front door, opening it just a little to peer out. In a flash, the three thugs had pushed the front door open and were inside the house.

The men demanded that the single, stolen chocolate be returned and the man with the scar

showed the children the box where one of the chocolates was missing. The children insisted they had not taken the chocolate, or eaten it, and that they were innocent.

Suddenly, the man with the scar stood very still. "Not eaten the chocolates?" he said in a dangerous tone and bent to pick up a bit of foil. He grimaced as something wet and sticky came on to his fingers. "This is the foil wrapper of the missing chocolate. Who ate it?"



Looking at the way the foil had been chewed, the kids realised with a sinking feeling that it was Goldy who had eaten the chocolate. How had their dog managed to open the box, they wondered. They had not noticed that their mother had left the single chocolate on top of the box yesterday.

"I'm sorry! It's our dog, Goldy, who seems to have eaten the chocolate! We had no intention of stealing it!" the children apologized to the men.

"Your dog Goldy! Huh! You expect us to believe such lies. Had your dog eaten this chocolate he would be... ha, ha, ha..." he broke into a menacing laugh.

Hearing his name, Goldy wagged his tail and then looked perplexed as his tail seemed to be moving faster and faster of its own accord. He started chasing his tail and spun around at such a dizzying pace that he knocked down a lamp, a couple of tea cups and a pile of magazines. Then he charged around the room barking gleefully, cannoning into the TV stand and sending the television teetering alarmingly.

"Maybe this crazy dog has eaten the chocolate after all," said one of the men, "look at the way he's... arrgh..." The man broke off in fright as he saw Goldy take a flying leap straight for him.

(To be continued)

A STAR

V. V. S.LAXMAN

D-O-B / ZODIAC : 1 .11.74 / **Scorpio**
Style : Right Hand Bat / Right Arm Off Break
Test Debut : Vs South Africa at Ahmedabad, 1st Test, 1996/97
ODI Debut : Vs Zimbabwe at Cuttack, Pepsi Triangular Series, 1997/98

SOURAV GANGULY

D-O-B / ZODIAC : 8.7.72 / **Cancer**
Style : Left Hand Bat / Right Arm Medium
Test Debut : Vs England at Lord's, 2nd Test, 1996
ODI Debut : Vs West Indies at Brisbane, World Series, 1991/92

VIRENDER SEHWAG

D-O-B / ZODIAC : 20.10.78 / **Libra**
Style : Right Hand Bat / Right Arm Off Break
Test Debut : Vs South Africa at Bloemfontein, 1st Test, 2001/02
ODI Debut : Vs Pakistan at Mohali, Pepsi Cup, 1998/99

SACHIN TENDULKAR

D-O-B / ZODIAC SIGN : 24.4.73 / **Taurus**
Style : Right Hand Bat / Right Arm Off Break
Test Debut : Vs Pakistan at Karachi, 1st Test, 1989/90
ODI Debut : Vs Pakistan at Gujranwala, 2rd ODI, 1989/90

RAHUL DRAVID

D-O-B / ZODIAC : 11.1.73 / **Capricorn**
Style : Right Hand Bat / Right Arm Off Break
Others : Wicket-Keeper
Test Debut : Vs England at Lord's, 2nd Test, 1996
ODI Debut : Vs Sri Lanka, Singer Cup, 95/96

ASHISH NEHRA

D-O-B / ZODIAC : 29.4.79 / **Taurus**
Style : Right Hand Bat / Left Arm Med Fast
Test Debut : Vs Srilanka, Asia Test 98/99
ODI Debut : Vs Zimbabwe at Harare Coca Cola cup 2001

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SHOW

MOHAMMAD KAIF

D-O-B / ZODIAC : 1.12.80 / **Sagittarius**
Style : Right Hand Bat / Right Arm Off Break
Test Debut : Vs South Africa at Bangalore, 2nd Test, 1999/00
ODI Debut : Vs England at Kanpur, 4th ODI, 2001/02

YUVRAJ SINGH

D-O-B / ZODIAC : 12.12.81 / **Sagittarius**
Style : Left Hand Bat / Slow left Arm Orthodox
Test Debut : Vs New Zealand at Mohali, 2nd Test, 2003/04
ODI Debut : Vs Kenya at Nairobi, ICC KnockOut, 2000/01

LAKSHMIPATHY BALAJI

D-O-B / ZODIAC : 27.9.81 / **Libra**
Style : Right Hand Bat / Right Arm Medium Fast
Test Debut : Vs New Zealand at Ahmedabad, 1st Test, 2003/04
ODI Debut : Vs West Indies at Vadodara, 5th ODI, 2002/03

ZAHEER KHAN

D-O-B / ZODIAC : 7.10.78 / **Libra**
Style : Right Hand Bat / Left Arm Fast Medium
Test Debut : Vs Bangladesh at Dhaka, Only Test, 2000/01
ODI Debut : Vs Kenya at Nairobi, ICC KnockOut, 2000/01

MURALI KARTIK

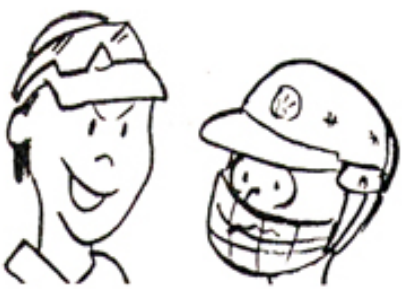
D-O-B / ZODIAC : 11.9.76 / **Virgo**
Style : Left Hand Bat / Slow Left Arm Orthodox
Test Debut : Vs South Africa at Mumbai, 1st Test, 1999/00
ODI Debut : Vs Zimbabwe at Hyderabad, 4th ODI, 2001/02

IRFAN KHAN PATHAN

D-O-B / ZODIAC : 27.10.84 / **Scorpio**
Style : Left Hand Bat / Left Arm Medium Fast
Test Debut : Vs Australia at Adelaide, 2nd Test, 2003/04
ODI Debut : Vs Australia at Melbourne, VB Series, 2003/04

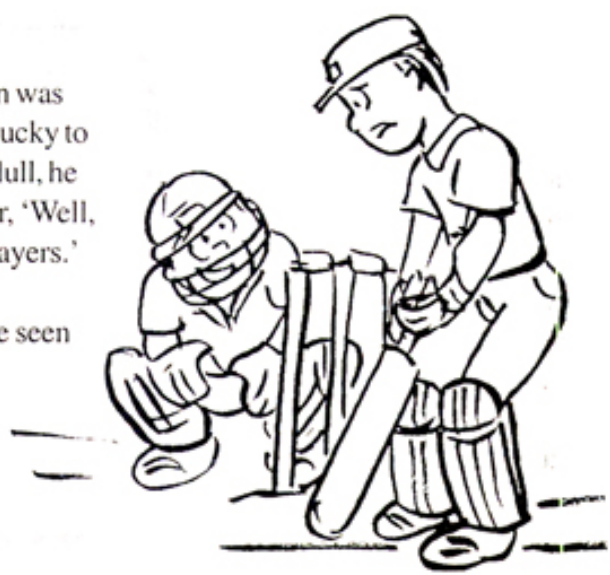
HUMOUR IN CRICKET

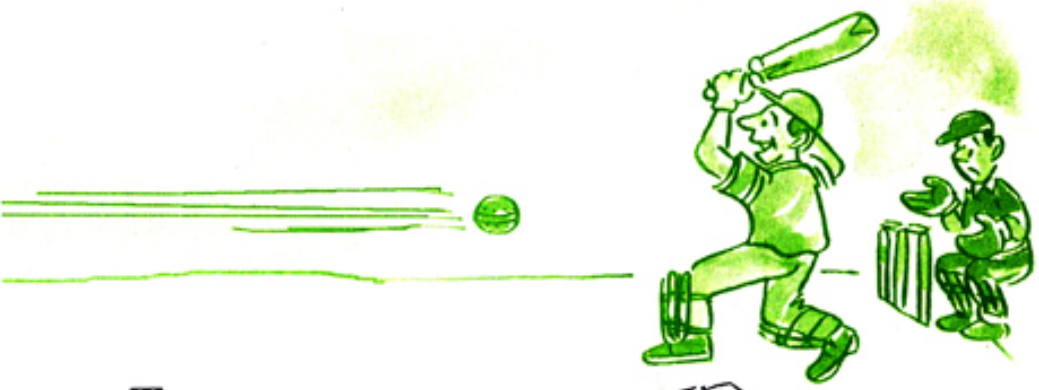
The wicket keeper had a very high opinion of himself. He very freely gave advice to his captain.
Wicket-keeper: You know, you have picked two men who should never be in the side.
Captain(icily): Oh! Who is the other one?



The game was drifting off into total boredom, when a man in the crowd suddenly burst into a round of applause.
The man next to him said 'Why did you do that?'
'Sorry' he replied 'I was trying to keep myself awake!'

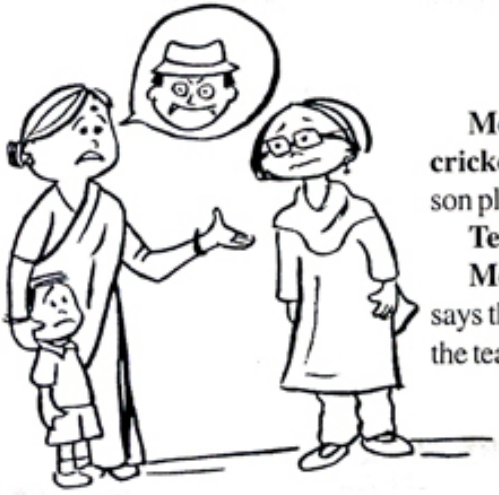
The nervous young batsman was having a terrible time and was lucky to still be at the crease. During a lull, he stammered to the wicket keeper, 'Well, I expect you've seen worse players.'
Silence....
He repeated, 'I expect you've seen worse players.'
'I heard you the first time. I was just trying to think!





The toothless victim was emerging from the anaesthetic. As he came to his senses, he saw the dentist packing up to go to the Lord's for the afternoon.

'Not a bad morning's work, eh?' said the dentist, cheekily. 'All out before lunch!'



Mother of a young cricketer: I don't want my son playing cricket any more.

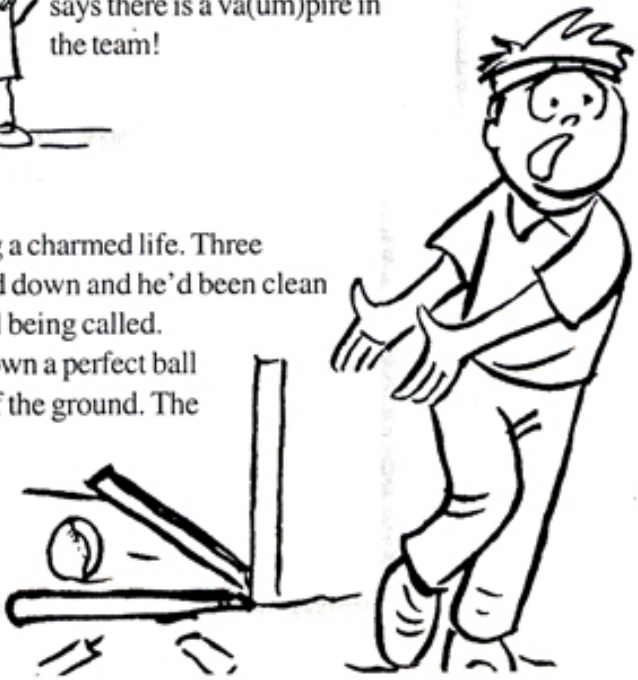
Teacher : But why?

Mother: Because he says there is a va(um)pire in the team!

The batsman was leading a charmed life. Three appeals for l.b.w. were turned down and he'd been clean bowled once to hear a no-ball being called.

Finally, the bowler sent down a perfect ball which took two stumps out of the ground. The bowler looked at him.

'You're not going, surely?' he said. 'There's still one stump standing!'



It was a blazing hot Sunday morning in Chennai. The Marina beach was teeming with children right from the age of ten to college students, playing cricket on the inner road. Some of them were also playing right on the sands!

Sriram- std X- Captain of the 'Young India' team :

"Since we are not allowed to play on the streets we chose this inner road alongside the beach to play cricket. My team mates come from different parts of Chennai . I live close by,"

Manimaran, the vice-captain:

"We play from 10 to 5, on holidays! On Sunday evenings the crowd is too much!

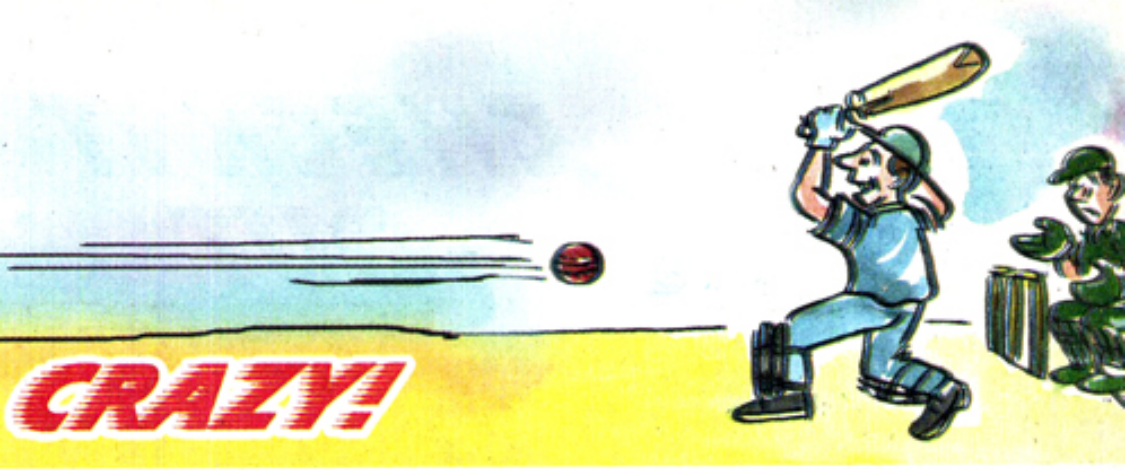
"Do you follow all the rules of cricket? What about the cricket kit?"

Opener Karthikeyan : "We have our own rules. Each innings consists of 16 overs and is a three hour game. The rules are very flexible indeed! We don't have LBW for one!" (grins)

Sriram : "We use tennis balls and invariably end up using one every day due to the wear and tear or it gets lost. As for cricket kits we use them only when playing tournaments."

"Tournaments, what kind?" (Disbelievingly).

Sriram: "Definitely! We won a cash prize of Rs.3000 in the Marina tournament held last December!"



CRAZY!

R.C.JEYANTHAN

But why did you choose the beach?

Manimaran (hesitantly): "Well, playing on the sands is better exercise than playing on hard ground. I used to be so fat, that everyone called me Fatty. Now after four years of regular cricket I am fit as a fiddle!"

Karthikeyan : "There is plenty of fresh air. When the wind is blowing strongly, if we hit the ball correctly there are plenty of runs to be made!"

***

A dead-end street of Ashok Nagar, a quiet area in Chennai. There was a cycle kept in the middle of the road and its front wheel was being used as the wicket!

"What an innovation!"

This team of six was called 'Samrat'. They were ten to twelve year old boys from the Government Higher Secondary School nearby.

Thyagarajan the team captain:

"There are fifteen members in our club but most of them are not present today. Only six of us are here so we are playing with teams of 3 each!"

Durai: "We use the compound walls of the houses too as wickets but the only problem is that if the ball gets into any of the compounds they don't give it back to us.As it is we've to buy the balls with our pocket money and each one costs Rs.28!"

CHECK IT OUT

1. Which player scored the fastest century in a One Day International?
   a) Sanath Jayasuriya
   b) Shahid Afrida
   c) Sachin Tendulkar
   d) Viv Richards

2. Which bowler took consecutive hat-tricks in a Test match?
   a) Darren Gough
   b) Kapil Dev
   c)Wasim Akram
   d) Courtney Walsh

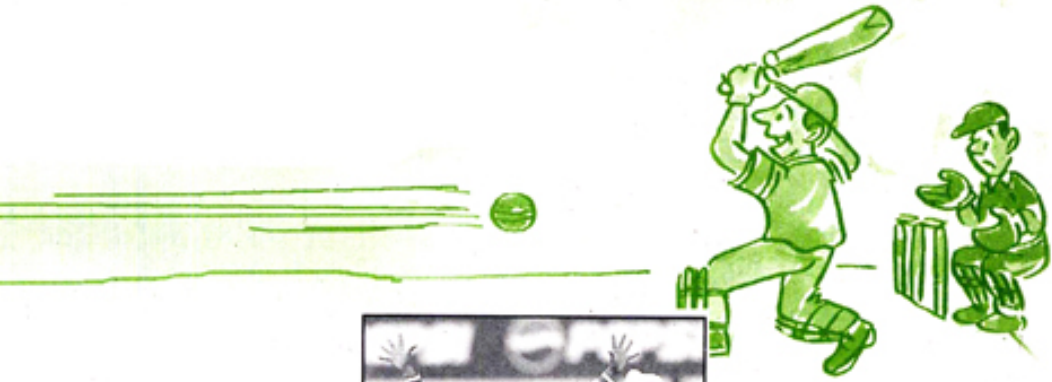
3. Which player scored the fastest fifty in a One Day International?
   a) Sachin Tendulkar
   b) Shahid Afrida
   c) Sanath Jayasuriya
   d) Adam Gilchrist

4. Who holds the record for the most number of wickets in Test cricket?
   a) Kapil Dev
   b) Sir Richard Hadlee
   c) Wasim Akram
   d) Courtney Walsh

5. Who has played the most number of One Day International matches?
   a) Javed Miandad
   b) Sunil Gavaskar
   c) Desmond Haynes
   d) Mohammed Azharuddin

6. Who has scored the most number of One Day International centuries?
   a) Sachin Tendulkar
   b) Mark Waugh
   c) Saeed Anwar
   d) Brian Lara

7. Which team holds the record for the highest score in a Test match innings?
   a) India
   b) Sri Lanka



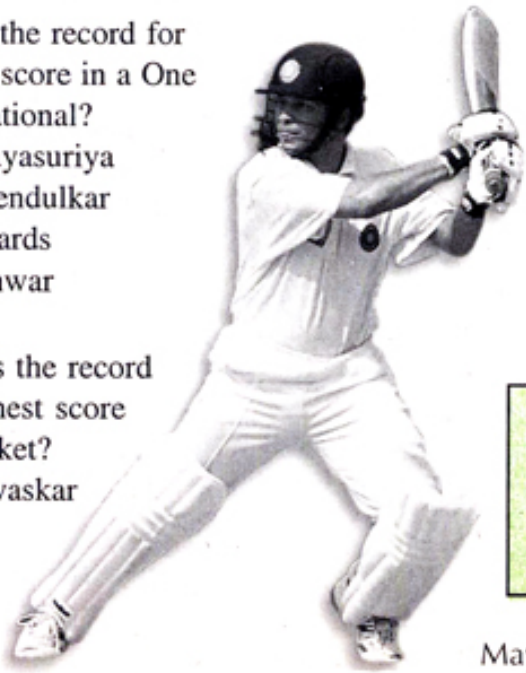
c) England
d) West Indies

8. Who has played the most number of World Cup matches?
a) Mohammed Azharuddin
b) Arjuna Ranatunga
c) Javed Miandad
d) Aravinda de Silva

9. Who holds the record for the highest score in a One Day International?
a) Sanath Jayasuriya
b) Sachin Tendulkar
c) Viv Richards
d) Saeed Anwar

10. Who holds the record for the highest score in Test cricket?
a) Sunil Gavaskar
b) Gary Sobers
c) Brian Lara
d) Javed Miandad

11. Which player scored the most runs in the recent test series between India and Australia?
a) Ricky Ponting
b) Steve Waugh
c) Sachin Tendulkar
d) Virendar Sehwag



12) Who dismissed Steve Waugh in the first innings of his final test match?
a) Irfan Pathan
b) Murali Kartik
c) Anil Kumble
d) L.Balaji

ANSWERS:
1. b 2. c 3. c 4. d
5. d 6. a 7. b 8. c
9. d 10. c 11. a 12. a

• **B.R.Sushmita, Bangalore**

How can playing chess increase concentration?

Chess is a mind game. If you loose concentration at any stage of the game you will lose control of the game and probably lose it too. So one has to concentrate as much as possible on the board to win the game.

* Humpy with her younger sister Chandra Hawsa on the left

• **S.Kavitha,Tirunelveli**

Should a beginner practice in making his/her own moves or ready-made moves?

Beginners should practice ready-made moves in the opening phase of the game.

• **D.P.Balakrishnan, Chennai**

What is the secret behind your success in winning the 'Men's Grand Master title'?

After becoming the Woman Grandmaster, I had decided to play in the Men's Grandmaster tournaments. At that stage I won the Hotel Lipa International tournament in Hungary in the year 2001.This win gave me the confidence to win the men's GM title.

• **U.Himanshu, Mysore**

How can we predict the move the other person is going to make?

If you start thinking on the other side {opponent's side} of the board, you can predict their move.

* Humpy reluctantly looks up from an absorbing game

• **R.Varun, Kolkatta**

What is the important quality a chess player should possess while playing a match?

While playing a match one should be able to overpower his/her opponent.

• **R.Anirudh, Chennai**

Can we learn this game through a book?

Yes, you can learn this game through books.

• **Saradha Sridhar, Mumbai**

What is your message to the young generation of players?

Don't get upset when you lose a game, keep on trying. One day you will be the winner!

* Humpy with mother Latha

* Both the sisters with father; Humpy on the right arm of dad.

• **Basanti Rao, Cuttack**

Who taught you the game? Do you have a coach to train you?

I learnt the game from my father Mr.Koneru Ashok, who is also my trainer.

THE WHIZ KID OF CHESS
KONERU HUMPY!

• **Dekshita Sridhar, Mumbai**

I am good at chess and would like to take it up as a career. But my parents want me to treat it as a hobby. What should I do?

Try to achieve some good results in chess and then you can hope to convince your parents.

• **G.Y.S.Valliamma, Chennai**

At which age did you start playing?

I started playing chess at the age of six.

• **R.Navaneetha, Coimbatore**

Who is your favourite chess player?

Garry Kasparov

• **V.Girish, Chennai**

What are your hobbies?

Reading story books and watching television.

• **Chiranth M Prakash, Bangalore**

What other games do you play?

I play ring tennis, badminton and carrom.

• **Abhishek R Shetty, Bangalore**

What kind of player are you: Attacking, Defensive or Moderate? Which are the main pieces of your opponent that you would aim to remove in a game?

I am a positional player. I would like to aim at my opponent's King!

* Enjoying a rare moment with family

• **V.Meenakshi, Chennai**

Can you give some tips to play a 5-move check game?

1. d4 f5 2.Bg5 Nf6 3.Bxf6 gxf6 4.e4 fxe4 5.Qh5# 1-0

• **V.Varsha,Pondicherry**

What is your future ambition? How much support do you get from your family in your pursuit of Chess?

My future ambition is to win the women's world chess championship. My father is my trainer and my mother Latha is very supportive and takes good care of me. My younger sister Chandra Hawsa is also a chess player, Sometimes we practice together.

• **Rajiv.P.New Delhi**

What are the main qualities required to become a chess champion?

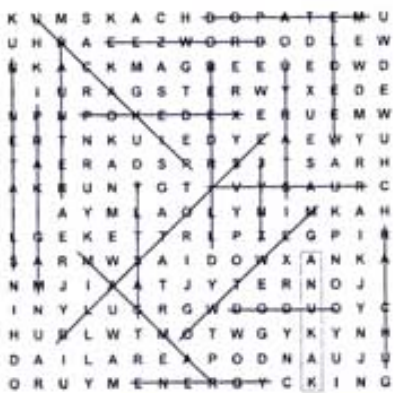
Interest, determination, hard work, concentration and confidence.

GOKULAM asks:

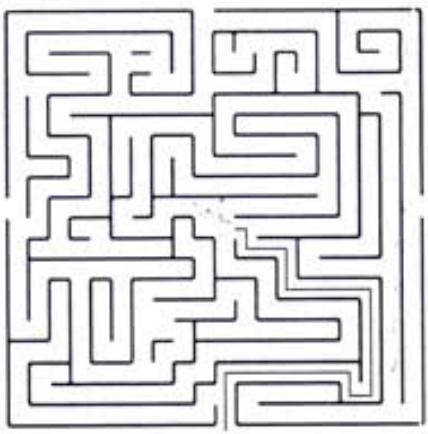
• ***What are the various opening***

ANSWERS TO THE PUZZLES ON PAGES 32 & 33

I.



II.



gambits used at the start of a game? Which is your favourite one?

Kings gambit, Queens gambit, Benko gambit, Morra gambit, Evans gambit etc.My favourite opening gambit is Queens gambit.

* Proudly displaying under - 9 Championship Trophy in 1996

* Interestingly poised - hockey or chess?!

- ***Which has been your most memorable game?***

My last round game against Elizabeth Paehtz of Germany has been my most memorable win when I played in the World Junior Chess Championship at Athens, Greece in the year 2001.This win earned me the 4th world title.

- ***What is the 'end game'? How important is it?***

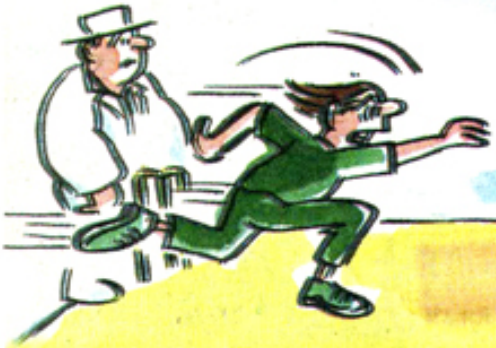
The game of chess passes through 3 phases. These are Opening, Middle game and Endgame. Usually all the pieces will be developed {getting ready for the battle} in the opening. Some of the pieces will be exchanged during the middle game. The resulting simplified position is called Endgame in which most of the games will be decided.

- ***What is a double check?***

In some positions it is possible to announce check with two pieces at a time in one move.

- ***What is Rapid Play? How different is it from a regular game?***

Games with less time controls {usually 30min each} are called rapid games,whereas in regular games players will be usually given two hours or 1hour 30min + 30 seconds increment to finish the game.



THE DOYEN

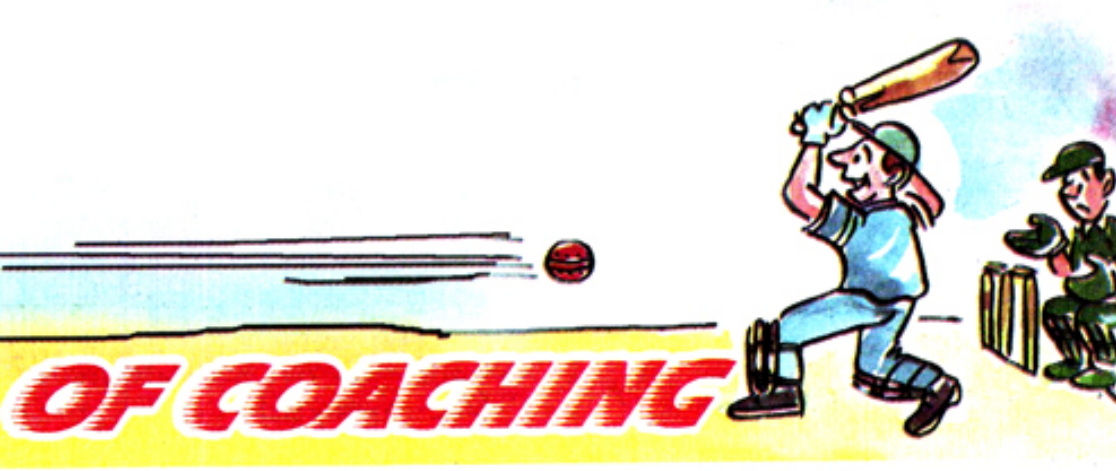
Mr. Dharmalingam a former Airforce Officer, is a pioneer of cricket coaching camps, starting one as early as 1980 at the YMCA grounds. Name any Ranji cricketer or even a National player from Tamilnadu, he might have had his lesson from Dharmalingam at one time or the other.

Mr. Dharmalingam took time off from his coaching to talk to our readers through this page....

Gokulam: Cricket has become highly commercialized. What kind of children do you get for coaching camps? Do they really come for the love of cricket or...?

Dharmalingam: We restrict admissions to the coaching camp, the ratio being 15 boys to 1 coach. We have morning and evening sessions. As for as commercialization goes, yes it's prevalent to a certain extent. Parents are too impatient to wait! They would like their sons to become Ranji players overnight! I always advise them that nothing succeeds like hardwork and more hardwork.

G: What is the kind of teaching or



OF COACHING

PRIYAN SRINIVASAN

training you give in your Academy?

D: We teach children the basics of the game and the laws of cricket. We give them ample physical fitness exercises, so that they warm up properly. For those coming from the Tamil medium schools, we give lessons in English, so that they will feel at home in later years when they have to mingle with cricketers of other states or countries. Once a week we have yoga classes to improve their concentration. The boys not only become good cricketers but good human beings too.

• Dharmalingam

G: How do you identify talent and train a child in a particular department?

D: We teach the children the techniques of bowling, batting and fielding. After keenly observing their aptitude towards a particular department, we give them specific training. However nowadays, cricketers are expected to excel in all aspects of the game.

G: How much do you charge for summer camps?

D: We charge very nominal rates. We have forty day camps for which we charge Rs.2000/- all included. We give free coaching for kids from poor families. During the rest of the year we have weekend coaching sessions.

G: In conclusion, what would you like to tell budding young cricketers?

D: If really passionate about the game, you have to work really hard at the nets daily. Only then will you be able to succeed. The path is not easy. Common sense is very essential. No need to go overboard about building a good body. A normal physique is only needed .Ultimately only hard work marks out a winner.

Photographs : **Rajan**

A NOBLE

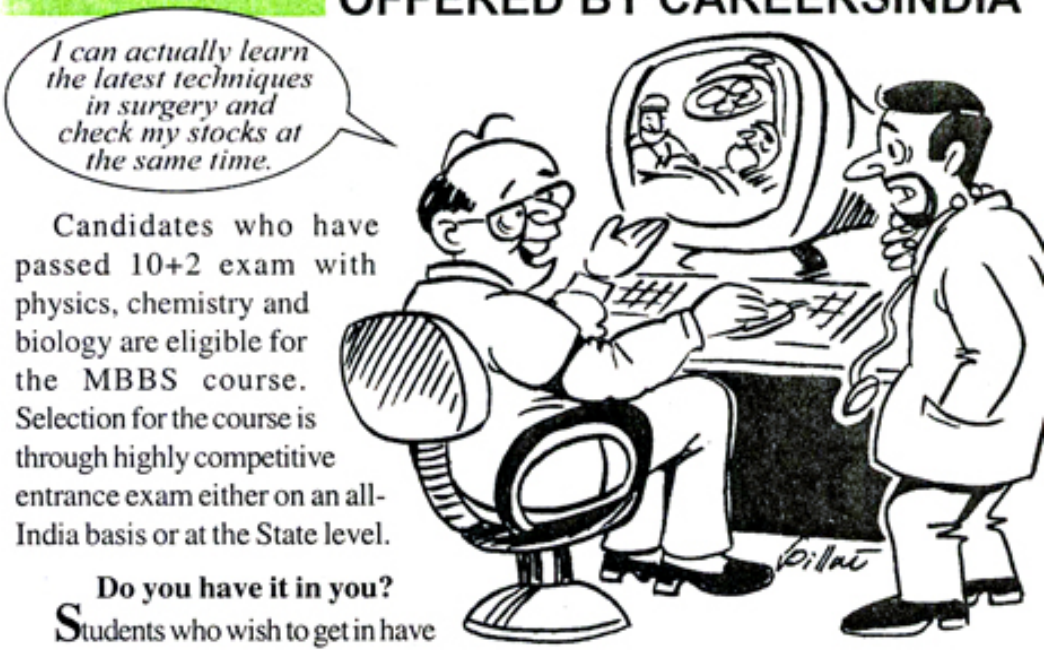
Kids commonly play 'Doctor – Patient', a favourite game! Hence right from childhood, the virtues of curing people of diseases is firmly imprinted in tender minds. When grown up, these very same children may or may not take up medicine.

Imagine having to treat patients day in and out with all kinds of ailments! There may be many people averse to the very idea. Yet, there are so many people who are drawn to the profession for the very same reason. The human body and its functioning is so complex and interesting that people are drawn to study it. If the latter is true for you, then you could very well join the bandwagon of the white-coated men/ women.

Considered one of the traditional careers, medicine has been and is still a dream for many kids. While advancement in the field of medicine has increased the average life span, modern life style has also adverse effects on the health of an individual. The demand for medical professionals for therapeutic treatment as well as research work is increasing both within the country and abroad.

Educational Qualification

Those who aspire to become doctors have to be prepared for a lot of hard work and continuous study. Today, an MBBS degree (5 years, including the period of internship) would qualify you to become a general physician. Most students go on to do a three year MD/MS course. There are areas of specialization and super specialization in medicine. The major areas of specialization include General Medicine, General Surgery, Pediatrics, Cardiology, Obstetrics & Gynecology, Neurology, Ophthalmology, Dermatology, Orthopedics, Psychiatry, ENT and Pathology. Further super specialization's of study are also available in the areas such as Plastic Surgery, Neuro-Surgery, Cardio-Thoracic Surgery, Endocrinology, Clinical Hematology and other subjects. The use of the latest medical equipments being used in the field require doctors to be *IT* savvy to a certain extent.



PROFESSION

Candidates who have passed 10+2 exam with physics, chemistry and biology are eligible for the MBBS course. Selection for the course is through highly competitive entrance exam either on an all-India basis or at the State level.

Do you have it in you?

Students who wish to get in have to be prepared for long and irregular hours of work. It is definitely not the profession for those who wish to bid goodbye to their books after post graduation, as medicine needs constant updating of skills as well as knowledge. Good health, a strong sense of responsibility, confidence, keen sense of observation, patience and a genuine love for the profession are qualities that are required.

Some of the well known medical colleges in the country are AIIMS (New Delhi), CMC (Vellore), AFMC (Pune), KEM (Mumbai), GMC (Mumbai), JIPMER (Pondicherry), Faculty of Medicine, AMU (Aligargh), MMC (Chennai), Bangalore Medical College (Bangalore), Lady Hardinge (New Delhi).

Next Month: **ARCHITECTURE**
Email your suggestions to
gokulam@careersindia.com

Some interesting tidbits

According to the founder of the Chennai-based Medical Computer Society of India you could be sitting at home learning to become a doctor! Surgical procedures can be taught using *VR* techniques. In this, a student can fly down the esophagus into the stomach to investigate an ulcer or grab it like in a biopsy. E-learning now makes it easier for students to understand difficult topics. Sure sounds interesting! It could well supplement the traditional classroom method of study.

SPOT IT RIGHT

5

LAST DATE : 15.5.2004

ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS :

1. Name the monument .....
2. It is situated at .....
3. It is the most sacred temple for the .....
4. The creator of the Harmandir Sahib or the sanctum sanctorum was: .....
5. The holy book of the Sikhs is the.....

Rules and Regulations

• Strictly for school going children • Five lucky winners will get a cash award of Rs.50/- each. They will be decided by a draw of lots from out of the all correct entries. • Incomplete Entries will be rejected. • Entries accepted only on this form • No xerox copies.

Name : (Mr/Ms) .....

Age : ..... class .....

School : .....

Residential Address : .....

..... Pin .....

Signature : .....

The Editor, Gokulam, Kalki Buildings, 47-NP, Jawaharlal Nehru Road, Ekkaduthangal, Chennai - 600 097.

Tear along this line

BEAT THE HEAT!

Ice cream soda

Ingredients:

Vanilla Ice cream
Straws to drink from
Tall glasses
Your favourite soft drink / Lime juice

Method:

Put a scoop of ice cream into a tall glass. Add the soft drink or lime juice slowly, till the glass is filled to the brim. Drink with a straw!

Heavenly!

- Priyanjali Sinha,
Std IV,
KV, Kalai Kunda (W.B)

Banana Milk Shake

Ingredients: (serves four)

Bananas - 4 (Ripe)
Sugar - ½ cup
Milk - 4 cup (boiled & chilled)

Method:

Crush the banana and milk well in a mixie. Add sugar and chill for ½ an hour in the fridge. Take it out and beat it in the mixie once more and serve chilled. Decorate with sliced almonds. Fix a banana slice on the rim of the glass.

- A. Keerthana,
Std VII, Sindhi High School,
Bangalore

Vanilla Ice cream

Ingredients:

Butter or Margarine - 3 tbs
Sugar - ½ cup
Milk - 1 cup
Cornflour - 1½ tbs
Cold milk - 2 tbs
Salt - a pinch
Vanilla essence - ¼ tsp
Heavy cream whipped - 1 cup

Method:

Keep a large pan with water. Keep a smaller pan inside it and melt butter. Add sugar and blend well with butter. Heat milk to boiling point in another pan. Mix cornflour with 2 tbs of cold milk and add to the milk. Add the sugar and butter mixture too. Add salt, stirring continuously, until thickened. Allow it to cool and add vanilla flavour. Fold in the cream and beat once more. Freeze for a couple of hours. Take it out and beat it well once again. Return to freezer and keep for 4 to 6 hrs.

- Nidhi Choudhry

CASE FILE - 11

Chander, the school cricket captain was baffled. The storeroom lock was broken. The fresh paint on the door had peeled off a little near the lock area. Chander rushed inside. He counted the brand new cricket balls, which the school had bought for the match.

No. It could not be true! He counted again. But the number of balls remained six. "So four balls are missing!" Chander pondered over the situation. It was half past eight. They were due to play the rival team from the next town that day. It was supposed to be a friendly match. But both sides were keen on winning.

"Last night, before locking this room, I counted the new balls. They were ten in number. But now four of them are missing. Who could have stolen them?" Chander's doubts converged on Muthu and Nagarjun. They were not in the team. However being his classmates, they had volunteered to help him. "Or did they volunteer in order to create trouble for me?" Chander heaved a sigh. He recalled the happenings of the previous day.

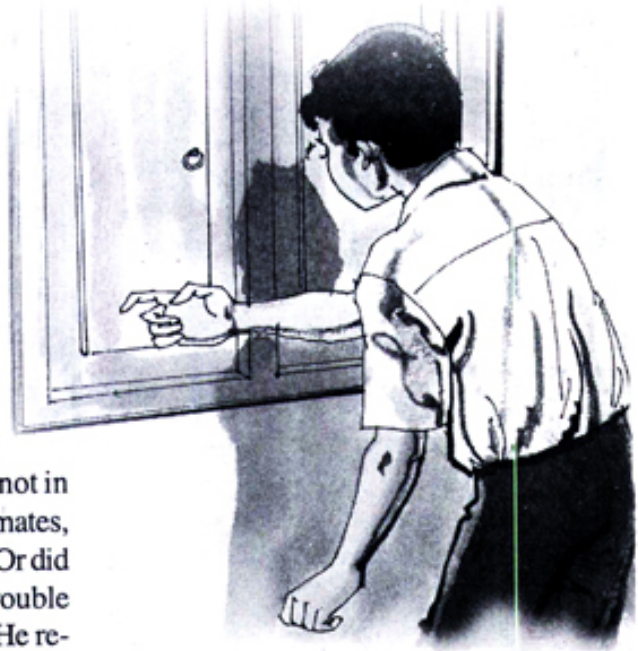
***

The sight of the new cricket balls had fascinated Muthu. He pleaded with Chander to allow him to take only one ball out of the lot. He promised to return it after showing off to his friends at home. Nagarjun too had wanted a few balls but for a different purpose. He was a schemer. "Chander, you were able to buy the balls at a very cheap rate since you were buying it for our school. Allow me to take a few balls. I will sell them at a higher price. You may replace the balls with new ones again at the discounted price. And we can share the profit."

Chander sternly refused both the propositions.

***

Chander thought furiously. He decided to consult the Physical Training



master before taking any action. But how to leave the room unprotected?

Chander saw Thomas coming his way. Thomas was a middle-aged man who was in charge of the school canteen. He often stayed over night at the school. When Chander requested Thomas to take care of the storeroom till he came back, he readily agreed.

But on the way Chander met Mohan. Mohan was the captain of the rival team.

He shook hands with Chander. "Hey, your school playground is splendid," said Mohan admiringly. "The cricket pitch is challenging. Will you show me the balls and other equipments your have purchased for today's match?"

Chander had no other option but to take Mohan to the storeroom. Mohan was very appreciative of the storeroom. "My goodness. I never saw a storeroom built so thoughtfully," he exclaimed. But for the loss of the cricket balls, Chander would have felt very proud of the compliment. The storeroom was indeed planned with great care to stock many educational and sports items that the school needed. A semicircular structure with a door, which had been painted only the previous day, presented a nice sight.

THE MYSTERIOUS THEFT

Chander was aghast when he neared the entrance. The door was shut and Thomas was not to be found.

"Is anybody inside?" asked Mohan, for which Chander didn't have any answer. Chander walked fast and pressed the calling bell. There was some sound from inside but the door was not opened. "Careful Chander! Don't touch the door," cautioned Mohan. "The new paint is still not dry." Mohan too rang the bell and then moved away and tapped on the windowpane adjacent to the door.

"Chander, why don't you develop some patience?" asked Thomas opening the door from inside. "I brought a couple of mangoes and was eating them with the door bolted behind me. If I had not done so, I would have had to share it with the boys." He crumpled the plastic bag in which he had brought the fruits and put it in his pant pocket.

When Chander narrated all these to Ramshekar, the latter appreciated Chander for his photographic memory. Then Ramshekar said that he suspected a particular person to be the thief. On whom did his suspicion fall?

If you cannot answer, turn to page 75

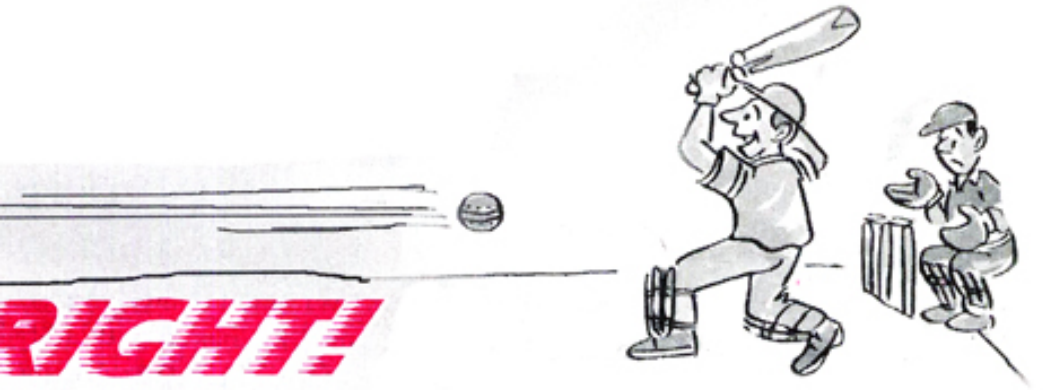
SPOT 'EM

1. He was the first to take 300 wickets in Test Cricket.

2. He was the youngest player to captain a test side - an Indian!

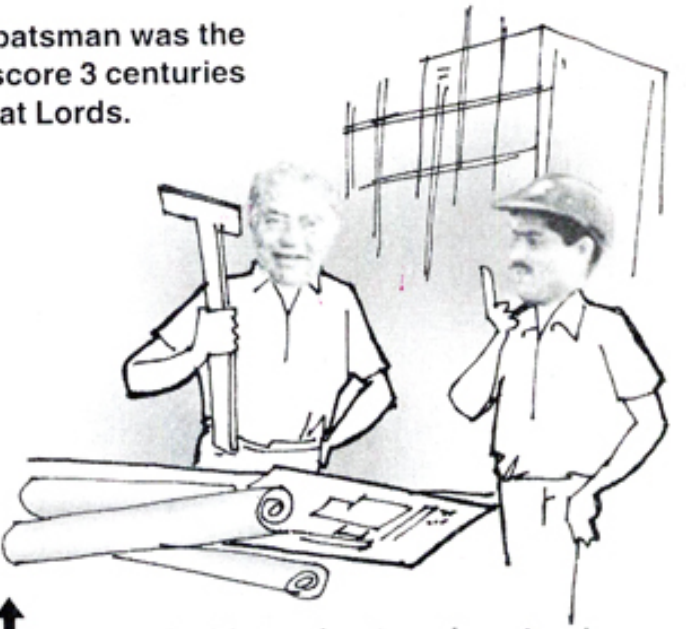
3. This prolific cricketer was born with an extra finger in each hand!

4. He was the youngest player to score a triple century in tests - an Australian.



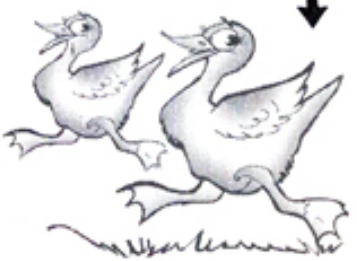
RIGHT!

5. This batsman was the first to score 3 centuries at Lords.



6. Identify this engineer and contractor - Indians ofcourse!

7. What is a King - Pair?



Ans:

1. Fred Trueman
2. Nawab of Pataudi Jr
3. Garry Sobers
4. Don Bradman
5. Dilip Vengsarkar
6. Farouk Engineer and Nari Contractor
7. When a batsman is out first ball for a duck in each innings of a match.

A SUMMER CAMI

"Yahoo!" shouted my father happily. "What's the good news? Are you going to get a promotion?" asked my mother eagerly. "No! No!" said my father. "Read the newspaper. The Coimbatore Electricity Board has said there won't be power supply today from 9am to 6pm." In the whole country, if there was one person who loved power failure, it was my father! Ever since the electricity rates were raised in the budget, my father regarded the power failure as a priceless gift from the Coimbatore Electricity Board. So, dad went off to his office cheerfully.

My mother and I looked crestfallen. It was holiday time and I didn't know, how I would spend the day with out television, internet or music system. Adding more woes was the hot sultry climate. My eyes fell on the telephone. "Whew! Saved from boredom!" I thought happily.

I called my friend Asha. "She's gone to Mrs. Betty's house," said her mother. Mrs. Betty lived a few houses from mine. We all used to address her fondly as Grandma. I wondered why Asha had gone there.

I went to Grandma Betty's house. She welcomed me inside with a big smile on her face. "Yes! Asha is in the backyard," she said. I followed her. Grandma Betty's backyard resembled a mini forest. I sighed as I looked at the trees. Why didn't we have trees like this in our backyard? Ours was a barren one. Under the canopy of trees sat Asha reading a book. There were

also some children from my neighbourhood.

"Hi, Alice!" she smiled. "What are you doing here?" I asked. "Reading," she replied showing me a children's classic novel. "Grandma has a huge collection of books. She lends books for a small fee. Why don't you ask her for some books and read here?" asked Asha.

"Here, read this book," said Grandma giving me a classic novel titled "Huckleberry Finn." I loved to read comics, not books. Text books were unavoidable. But that was enough! I had never read a classic novel in my life. I turned the pages and was disappointed to find only a few pictures in the book. I sat under the cool shade of the trees to read. First I thought I'll just read a couple of pages and go home. But the ad-

WITH A DIFFERENCE

ventures of Huckleberry Finn was so interesting that I read page after page. The book transported me to the Mississippi river and I joined Huckleberry Finn and the runaway black slave Jim in their adventures on the raft. Reluctantly I went home for lunch. After lunch the sultry weather made me return to Grandma Betty's cool backyard. Also I wanted to finish the book.

Grandma Betty was teaching some girls the art of painting. In the far end some girls were making a doll house out of a card-

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Dear Readers,

* You are most welcome to send in your contributions to **Gokulam** either by post or by e-mail.

Remember every contribution sent by you should give details of your - **Name, Age, Class, Name and address of school, Residential address and a declaration stating that the contribution is your original creation (if not, the source must be mentioned).**

However, we cannot guarantee that your contribution will be published. It is also not possible for us to tell you when it will be published. But, if you require your contribution to be sent back to you on rejection, then you must enclose a self addressed, stamped envelope.

- **Editor**

PARTICIPATION CERTIFICATE

You will receive a **participation certificate** from us if your contribution is published. At the end of the one year period ending June 2004, the person with most number of participation certificates will receive a special prize.

board box. "Yesterday we read an Enid Blyton book. It was a story about doll houses. We wanted to make one and Grandma Betty said it was a good idea. She is also helping us," said Sheetal.

I always spent my pocket money going to internet cafes or movies. But this time I used the money to buy books from the book exhibition Grandma Betty took us to. My love for books had begun! Grandma Betty helped us choose the books. She suggested we read another of Mark Twain's master piece, 'The adventures of Tom Sawyer', H.G.Wells' 'Time Machine' and the Sherlock Holmes series to name a few. She also introduced us to R.K. Narayan's magical Malgudi series.

As days went by and power failures became more frequent, many children in my neighbourhood made a beeline to Grandma Betty's backyard to escape boredom and the summer heat. All the children who visited her backyard developed an interest either in reading or painting. Grandma Betty also taught simple creative crafts. She also shared her knowledge about gardening. She encouraged us to grow plants in our home. With her help I planted a few saplings in my backyard hoping to transform it like Grandma Betty's!

I thanked Grandma Betty for inculcating the reading habit in me. It helped me to resist the idiot box and concentrate on my studies in the days ahead.

MATCH FIXING

Match fixing has become a household topic to be debated upon. Book makers seem to have made a lot of money from cricket despite the ICC coming down heavily on them.

As such, match fixing came out in the open only after Hansie Cronje admitted that he took money from bookmakers. Ofcourse, it might have gone on for years behind closed doors.

Indian cricketers like Azharuddin have been banned for life from playing cricket while a five year ban was imposed on Ajay Jadeja for match fixing.

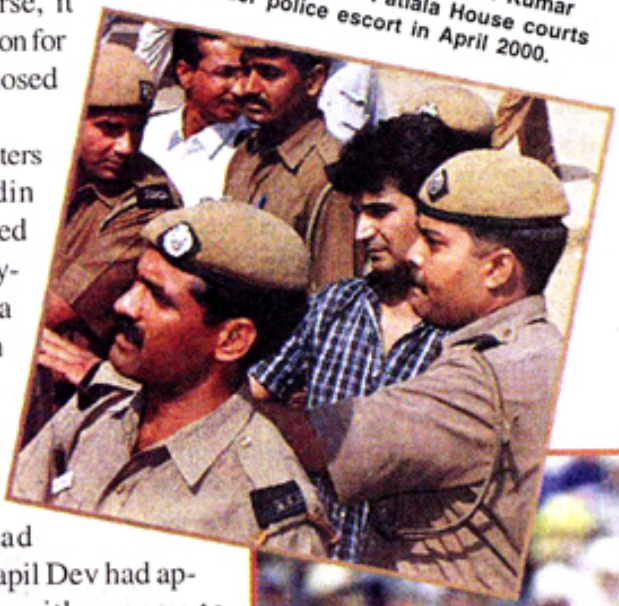
Manoj Prabhakar had claimed that Kapil Dev had approached him with money to underperform in a match against Pakistan for the Singer Cup at Colombo.

Kapil Dev, then went on to deny this allegation in a dramatic manner by copiously weeping in front of a global audience through BBC, Hard Talk program. Thankfully, Kapil Dev has since been completely exonerated.

After a year long inquiry, Pakistan's one- man judicial commision found former skipper Salim Malik and medium pacer Ata-ur-Rahman guilty of fixing cricket matches.

Australia's Mark Waugh was also alleged to have received money from an illegal bookmaker.

Why single out only cricket? It may as well



* Bollywood actor Kishen Kumar being taken to the Patiala House courts under police escort in April 2000.

* Hansie Cronje

* Mark Waugh

CRICKET - WORLD CUP STATISTICS

YEAR	VENUE	WINNER	RUNNERS UP
1975	England	West Indies	Australia
1979	England	West Indies	England
1983	England	India	West Indies
1987	India	Australia	England
	Pakistan		
1992	Australia	Pakistan	England
	NewZealand		
1996	India	Sri Lanka	Australia
	Pakistan		
1999	England	Australia	Pakistan
	Holland		
	Scotland		
2003	South Africa	Australia	India
	Kenya		
	Zimbabwe		

- S. Nilesh Kumar, Std X, HCMSS, Salem

be the case in all games involving large sums of money. Cricket is more popular and is in the limelight more often than other sports. The cricketing heroes are also legends in their own lifetime! This kind of adulation and corporate sponsorships have turned up a lot of bad apples.

Whenever such allegations take place, the relationship between two countries gets affected. There may be accusations and counter - accusations as to the effectiveness of the respective investigative agencies.

* Ajay Jadeja

* Azharuddin

* Manoj Prabhakar

According to an article by Sunil Gavasakar, there is always the tendency of a developed country to think that people from developing countries have less integrity compared to themselves. This comes with the arrogance of wealth, and the feeling is that the poor cannot be honest!

In cricket, allegations of match fixing could ruin reputations, built up over long periods of time. There are persons in the game who out of jealousy will accuse others of match fixing without an iota of solid evidence.

Gavaskar has said that if a player has been found guilty, he should be stripped of all his previous records.

While this suggestion is welcome, cricketers who falsely accuse others of malpractices should also be punished.

- R. Jayendran, Age - 17, Chennai

SPOT IT RIGHT 4

ANSWERS TO THE QUESTIONS GIVEN:

1. EMU
2. Flightless
3. Ostrich
4. Australia
5. Males

CONGRATULATIONS!

The 5 lucky winners are:

1. **J.K. Lakshna,**
Std VII, DAV Public School,
Chennai

2. **Trithankar Mishra,**
Std VI, BJEM School,
Bhubaneswar

3. **B. Rishi Vinaayak,**
Std V, ESMHSS, Villupuram

4. **S. Kirubhakar,**
Std VII, KV.No.1,
Kalpakkam

5. **C. Manjusha,**
Std VI,
Air Force School,
Pune

CASE FILE - 11

THE MYSTERIOUS THEFT

LOGIC BEHIND THE CASE ON PAGES 66 & 67

When Chander tried to find out why the room was locked, Mohan cautioned him to be careful about the newly painted door. He too rang the bell but did not bang on the door or try to open it. On the contrary he went and knocked on the windows. All these point to the fact that he already knew about the recently painted door. He had after all come with his team only the previous night and was not supposed to know about the wet paint. Hence Ramshekar suspected him of having stolen the balls.

ODES TO

They are the Best!

Indian cricket team is the best,
Be it one day or test.
When Ganguly leads the men in blue,
The opposition gets not a clue.
When Sehwag hits the ball over the fence,
Thousands of Indians jump and dance.
When Sachin Tendulkar reaches his ton,
For their safety the bowlers run.
When in succession wickets fall,
In comes Dravid the wall.
Whenever the cricket ball goes high,
For it, Kaif and Yuvi will fly.
But when it goes behind the stumps
Parthiv Patel makes the bails jump.
When Anil Kumble spins the ball
The wickets are sure to fall.
When Zaheer strikes with all his might
The batsmen are sure to close the fight.
The eleven men celebrate their gain,
The opposition sadly cries in pain.

- Dhanraj, B.
Std VIII, Kendriya Vidyalaya,
Kasaragod, Kerala

CRICKET

CRICKET

Eleven players play cricket,
All vying to take a wicket.
They play sometimes day and night,
To prove their skills and cricketing might.
Cricket is an outdoor game,
That fetches players money and fame.
They get so much publicity,
If they play with dexterity.
Some may lose and some may win,
A true sportsman shows no chagrin.
The game is played in a sporting spirit,
Winning or losing depends on merit.

- Shweta D'Cruz,
Std VIII,
Joseph's High School,
Mumbai

A STAMPEDE FOR SAREES!

As the date of election nears, campaigning is hotting up. Old accusations like the Bofors scandal are being raked up and new accusations are bandied about. The Supreme court has asked the election commission to act as a censor in respect of political advertisements appearing in TV channels, which will add to the E.C's headaches! Further, the Supreme court has refused to ban opinion polls but says that they can be regulated, while all the political parties are for once, unanimously of the opinion that opinion polls do influence the electorate and should be banned!

Justice Saharya committee enquiring into misuse of POTA has declared in no uncertain terms that the government of Tamilnadu erred in proceeding against Vaiko using the Prevention Of Terrorism Act. The commission held that mere verbal support and sympathy for Eelam Tamils cannot be taken as support for the ideology or methodology of the LTTE, a terrorist organization banned in India. The Tamilnadu government is yet to with draw the case against Vaiko who has been released only on bail by the Highcourt.

In Lucknow, from where the Prime Minister is contesting for the parliament election, there was a stampede for the free sarees being distributed resulting in the death of twenty two women and several being seriously injured. The opposition says that the free distribution of sarees was against the election code and amounts to bribing the electorate. Worse, the distribution was done in the name of Lalji Tandon, election agent of Vajpayee, in connection with Tandon's birthday. The function was organized in violation of section 144 prevailing in Lucknow and without police permission. The opposition says that the B.J.P. should own full responsibility for the incident, while the B.J.P. says that the function was arranged by a private party and that it had nothing to do with it! Meanwhile lip sympathy and money is pouring in for the bereaved.

Actor Rajnikanth has come out in the open to say that his vote is for the B.J.P. (combine) and has asked everybody to think before they vote. His support is based on the fact that the B.J.P. has included linking of rivers in its manifesto. The D.M.K.is quick to respond that the project finds a place in its manifesto also!

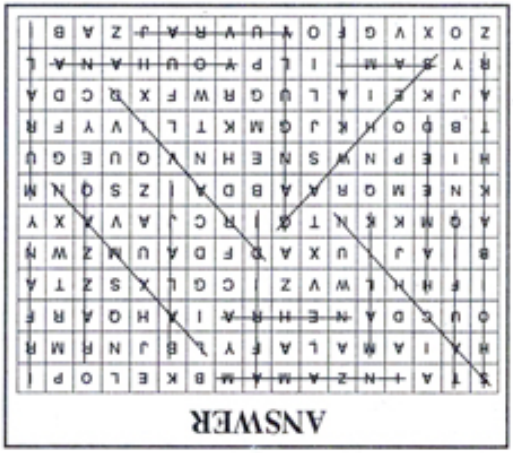
* A little girl mourning for her mother killed in the saree stampede.

LIST THEM!

Identify the names of 19 cricketers (Indian and Pakistani)

S	T	A	I	N	Z	A	M	A	M	B	K	E	L	O	P	I
H	A	I	A	M	A	L	A	F	Y	L	B	J	N	R	M	R
O	U	C	D	A	N	E	H	R	A	I	A	H	Q	A	R	F
I	F	H	H	L	W	V	Z	I	C	G	L	X	S	Z	T	A
B	I	A	J	I	U	X	A	D	F	D	A	U	M	Z	W	N
A	Q	M	K	K	N	T	G	I	R	C	J	A	V	A	X	Y
K	N	E	M	Q	R	A	A	B	D	A	I	Z	S	Q	N	M
H	I	E	P	N	W	S	N	E	H	N	V	Q	U	E	G	U
T	B	D	O	H	K	J	G	M	K	T	L	I	V	Y	F	R
A	J	K	E	I	A	L	U	G	R	W	F	X	D	C	D	A
R	Y	S	A	M	I	I	L	P	Y	O	U	H	A	N	A	L
Z	O	X	V	G	F	O	Y	U	V	R	A	J	Z	A	B	I

- Sruti Mukundan
Std VIII,
D.A.V. Public School,
Kolkata



ORIGIN OF

The game of cricket was first played in England more than 500 years ago. There were two different games in cricket; 'Club Ball' and 'Stool Ball'.

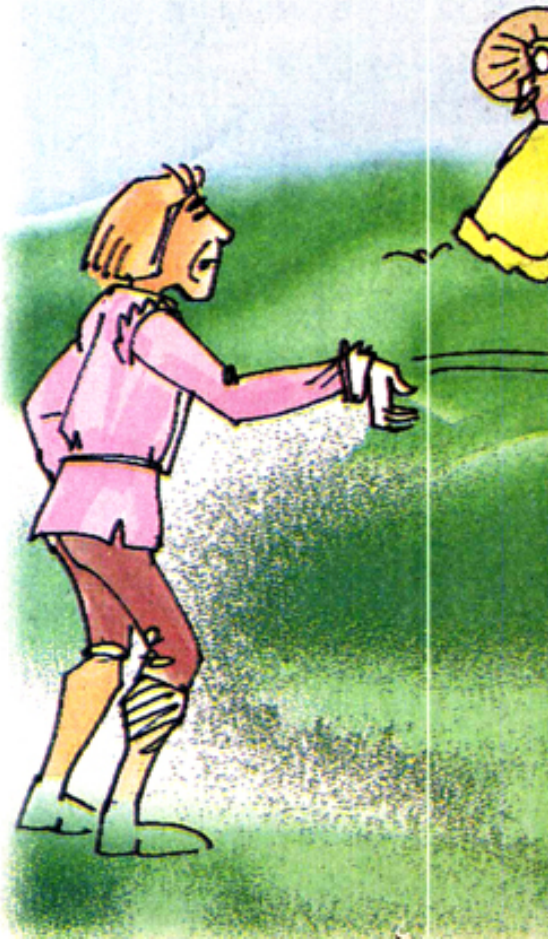
In the game of Club Ball, there was a batsman, a bowler and many fielders. The ball was covered with leather and the batsmen used to plant a pole on which the ball was hit. There was no wicket to defend.

In the game of Stool Ball, a stool was used as a wicket. The bowler would try to hit the stool with the ball. The man defending the stool would try to hit the ball back with his hand. If the ball hit the stool the man was out.

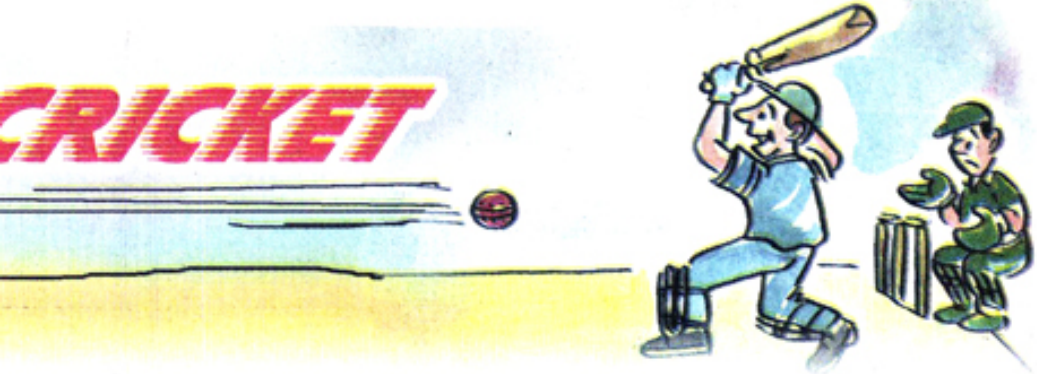
Years later, people started using a stick instead of the hand. Twigs from the branches of trees began to be used as wickets. Over the years as cricket became more popular, the stick was made in the form of a bat. The players began to score runs by running between the wickets.

A hole was made in the ground between two upright twigs of the wicket. The batsman had to put his bat into the hole at the end of every run. The batsman was out if the wicket keeper put his bat into the hole before the batsman could! The rule was not satisfactory and called for correction.

The two upright sticks of the wicket were so far apart that the ball could pass through the middle easily. So a third stick was planted in between. Later a crease was marked on the ground in front of the wicket as it is done today.



CRICKET

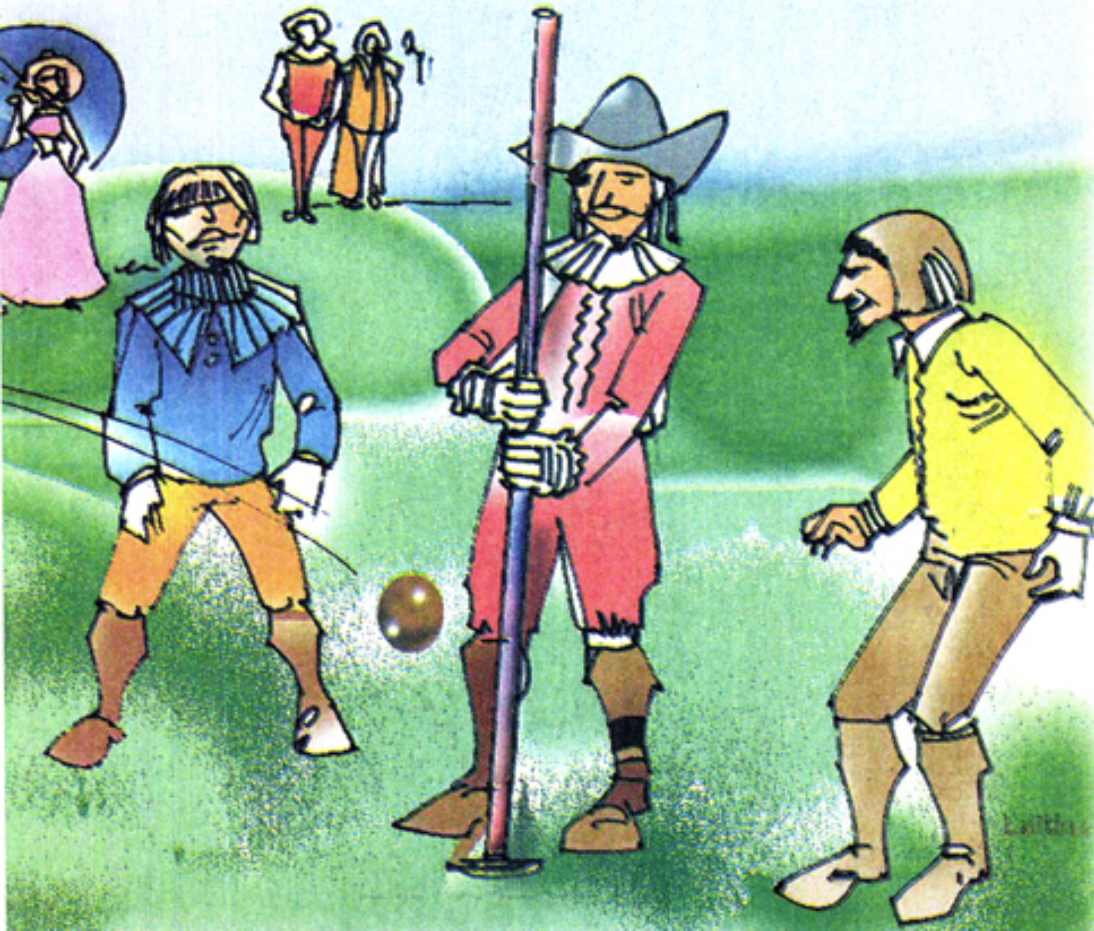


The umpire held a stick and at the end of every run a notch was cut on the stick. The runs were called the 'score' because the word 'score' means a scratch or mark.

When cricket was first played, the bowler always bowled under-arm. About 150 years ago, a young lady was trying to bowl for her brother. She wore a dress with a long skirt which had hoops inside. When she tried to bowl under-arm her hand hit the hoop. So, she threw it over-arm.

Now all cricketers bowl over arm instead of under-arm!

- Shweta D'Cruz,
Std VIII, St. Joseph's HS,
Mumbai



ABIDING BY RULES

CHANDRA MOULI

Former Captain of the Indian Cricket team Krishnamachary Srikkanth explains the role of International Cricket Council (ICC) for the readers of Gokulam.

The entire cricket played in the world is controlled by the International Cricket Council (ICC) based in London, UK. It aims at promoting the game as a global sport. ICC sets the rules and regulations of the game. It is nearly a century old organization.

On June 15th, 1909 representatives from England, Australia and South Africa met at Lords, London and founded a forum called " Imperial Cricket Conference". Membership of this body was confined to the countries within the British Commonwealth where cricket Test Matches were played.

In 1989 new rules were adopted and the name changed to the International Cricket Council. Thereby, ICC became a body whose decisions are binding on all member countries.

ICC has 27 Associate members which includes countries like Canada, Denmark, France, Hong Kong, and Italy which have started playing the game in the recent past and are yet to reach a standard in the game. Further there are 52 countries like Afganistan, Bahamas, Belgium, Bhutan, Brazil, Iran ,and Japan which are called affiliate members. ICC recognizes that cricket is played in these countries in accordance with the laws of cricket.

ICC plays a lead role in the organization of tournaments such as the ICC World Cup, ICC Knock Out, ICC Trophy (for non-test status countries) and Under 19 World Cup. ICC also administers the system of independent match referees and umpires for Tests and ODIs and the management of the code of conduct for the international game.

• Srikkanth in action

It is interesting to note that, amongst the member countries, only a few are recognized to play test matches. This list includes major cricketing countries like Australia, England, India, etc. However, there are certain other countries who can play only One Day Internationals. They have to improve the quality of their game to get test status.

TARGET THE BODY

A.R.

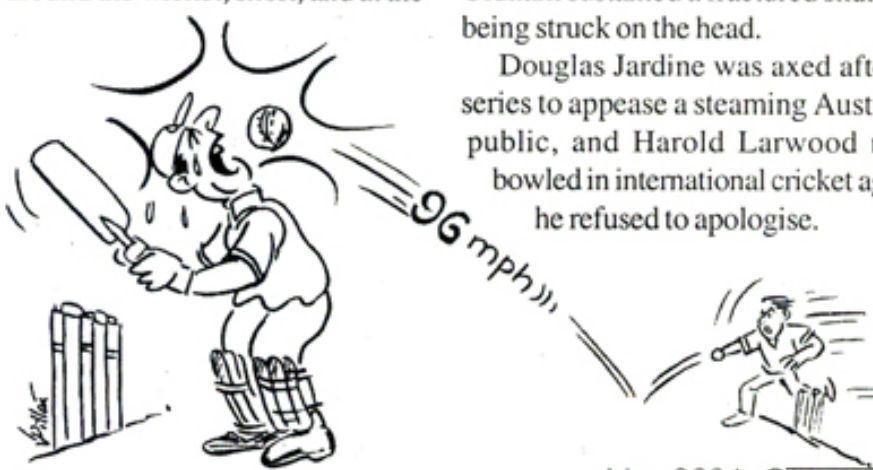
Bodyline – the 1932-33 Ashes series had such an effect on cricket that people still remember it seventy years later. So what is bodyline? In 1932, Douglas Jardine took over the captaincy of England, and had just one problem to contend with – Don Bradman. The great Aussie had just annihilated England in the previous Ashes series, which was played in England, and Jardine did not look forward to touring Australia while Bradman was in that kind of form.

Jardine did the most comprehensive research in the history of the game – he looked at film clippings of Bradman batting, he spoke to other players who had played against Bradman and he used every inch of his memory of the previous Test series. He came to a simple conclusion – Bradman was scared of the sharp rising delivery. So he devised a method – he asked his fast bowlers to bowl around the wicket, short, and at the body.

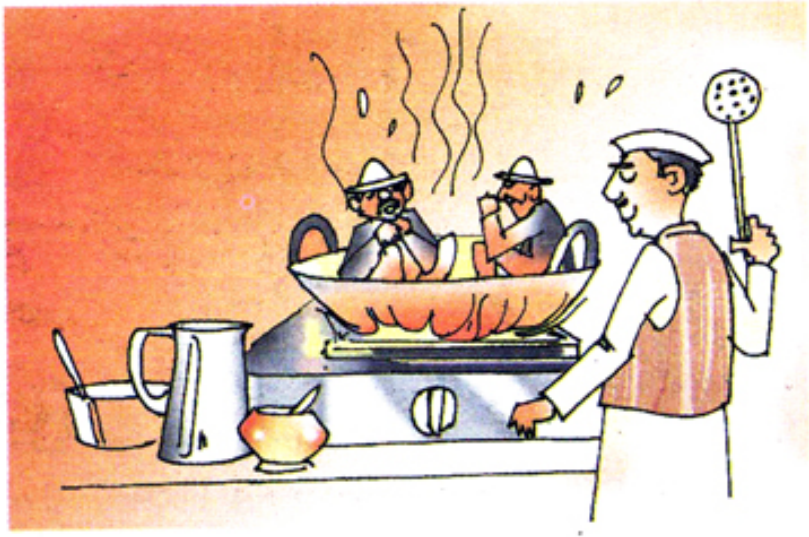
Harold Larwood is the bowler who executed Jardine's plan. He was clocked at 96 mph and probably bowled much faster than that. From descriptions, it sounds like he had the pace of Shoaib Akhtar and the accuracy of Glenn McGrath. His passion for the game is unparalleled. Once he had a severe nosebleed but he refused to go off the field. He took a hatrick (all three bowled) with blood pouring down onto his shirt.

The bodyline series saw England win – but the animosity between the two teams was so severe that it almost became a diplomatic problem between the two nations! The third test at Adelaide was the most controversial. Bill Woodfull, the Aussie captain was struck severely on the chest, just over the heart. The very next ball, Jardine ordered his bowler to bowl 'bodyline'. Even worse, another batsman Oldham sustained a fractured skull after being struck on the head.

Douglas Jardine was axed after the series to appease a steaming Australian public, and Harold Larwood never bowled in international cricket again – he refused to apologise.



CHANNEL MIXING!



Ramya, Sindhu and Bindhu loved watching television. The three of them always fought as to who will watch what. Their mother wouldn't interfere with their fights. Each one would snatch the remote and keep changing channels. Sindhu wanted to watch the cricket match, Bindhu wanted to watch the cookery show and Ramya the Parliament news.

This is what their mother heard one day:

In the parliament today…Nehra bowled his first over…and is washed away in boiling water…The Finance minister...went straight into the hands of Tendulkar… and is sliced into pieces… Mr.Bangarappa visited…Anil Kumble who is now going to…break the egg and …the leader of the opposition party…is caught by Sehwag…and soaked in Dalda …the speaker of the Lok Sabha …is hit on the face …which will now turn red in two minutes…during the zero hour…both the umpires…are fried golden brown.

We now end the news bulletin…by calling Dravid … to peel the onion.

- Varsha N Murthy,
Std X, CCHS,
Bangalore

PROTECTIVE GEARS

HELMET

What does a complete cricket kit consist of?

A batsman's cricket kit consists of: a Cricket Bat, leg guard, Batting Glove, Abdominal Guard, Thigh Guard, Elbow Guard, Helmet, and Chest Guard.

KIT BAG

WICKET KEEPING GLOVES

INNER GLOVES

CAP

THIGH PAD

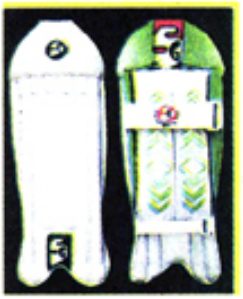
Is a cricket kit necessary at all?

If you have to learn the fundamentals of cricket in a professional manner, then a kit is a must.

Can a boy do without a full kit? Why isn't a bat and ball enough to play?

If cricket is played for fun then just a bat and ball, even a rubber/tennis ball is enough. But if cricket is played with an actual cricket ball which weighs about 156 grams and is rock hard, then other protective gears are needed.

WICKET KEEPING LEG GUARD



STUMPS WITH BAILS

When should a kit be bought? At what age should a child acquire it? Can the items in the kit be bought in stages? What about kits for coaching camps?

SHIN GUARD

A kit can be bought at any age provided the child is old enough to understand the usage of the equipment. At a very junior level not all protective equipments are required as the chances of getting hurt are very less. Gradually as the child gets more proficient in the game, the rest of the kit can be bought. However wearing of such equipments will make the child accustomed to use the same easily. As far as coaching camps are concerned, it depends on the kind of camp

attended, but most camps provide equipment for use.

How is a cricket bat for a 6 year old selected vis-à-vis that for a 16 year old?

The Cricket bat for a 6 year old child will be much smaller in length and width, thinner and will weigh much less compared to that for a 16 year old. The selection of a bat is based on height, and power in case of a 6 year old, whereas it is based on power and playing technique of the 16 year old.

Why did the bat of Kaif break in the recent one-day match?

The bat of Kaif broke because it was not seasoned properly and used immediately in the match. The bat had taken a sharp edge and it was broken. Similarly L. Balaji's bat also broke because it was a very raw and soft bat which was not at all seasoned and knocked in. Moreover Balaji used all his power to hit a very fast delivery from Shoiab Akhtar.

What is a cricket ball made of? Does it come in different sizes and weight?

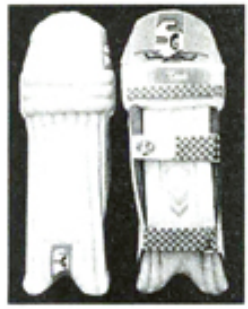
A Cricket ball is made of cork as core of the ball along with layers of cork and wool wrapped around which are finally enclosed in a leather outer layer and stitched at seam. The weight of a normal ball is five and a half *oz* or 156 *gms*. The weight of the ball used by women is 5 *oz* or 140 *gms* whereas the weight of a junior ball is around 130 to 132 *gms*.

Are cricket kits manufactured in India or imported? What are the price ranges available?

There are hundreds of companies manufacturing cricket goods in India, prominent among them are SG, SS, RNS - LARSONS, BDM, MRF etc.

One will be surprised to know that 80% of cricket goods throughout the world are sourced from India. It's almost 90% for Kashmir willow bats and handmade protective equipments. The price for a junior kit may vary from Rs.1200/- to 5000/-. A fairly decent quality kit may cost about Rs.2000/- to 2,200/-.

There are more than 1000 manufactures in India but all are based only in 3 places, i.e., Meerut, Jalandhar and Jammu.



BATTING LEG GUARD

CLOTHING

Why are there so many brands and so much difference in their rates? What difference does the brand of, say, a cricket bat make?

It's a market place and one has freedom to buy and sell. If there is demand, certainly there will be supply also. A brand gives a psychological confidence to the patrons of that particular brand.

When does your sale of cricket kits peak? During holidays when such coaching camps are held or is the sale continuous throughout?

The sale of cricket kits peak during summer vacation because it's a long stretch of holidays and one can concentrate fully on cricket coaching and utilize the kit to the maximum. In Chennai city alone there will be about 125 coaching camps which comes down to about 15 after the summer vacation.

How is a 'left-hander's' kit different from that of a 'right-hander's'?

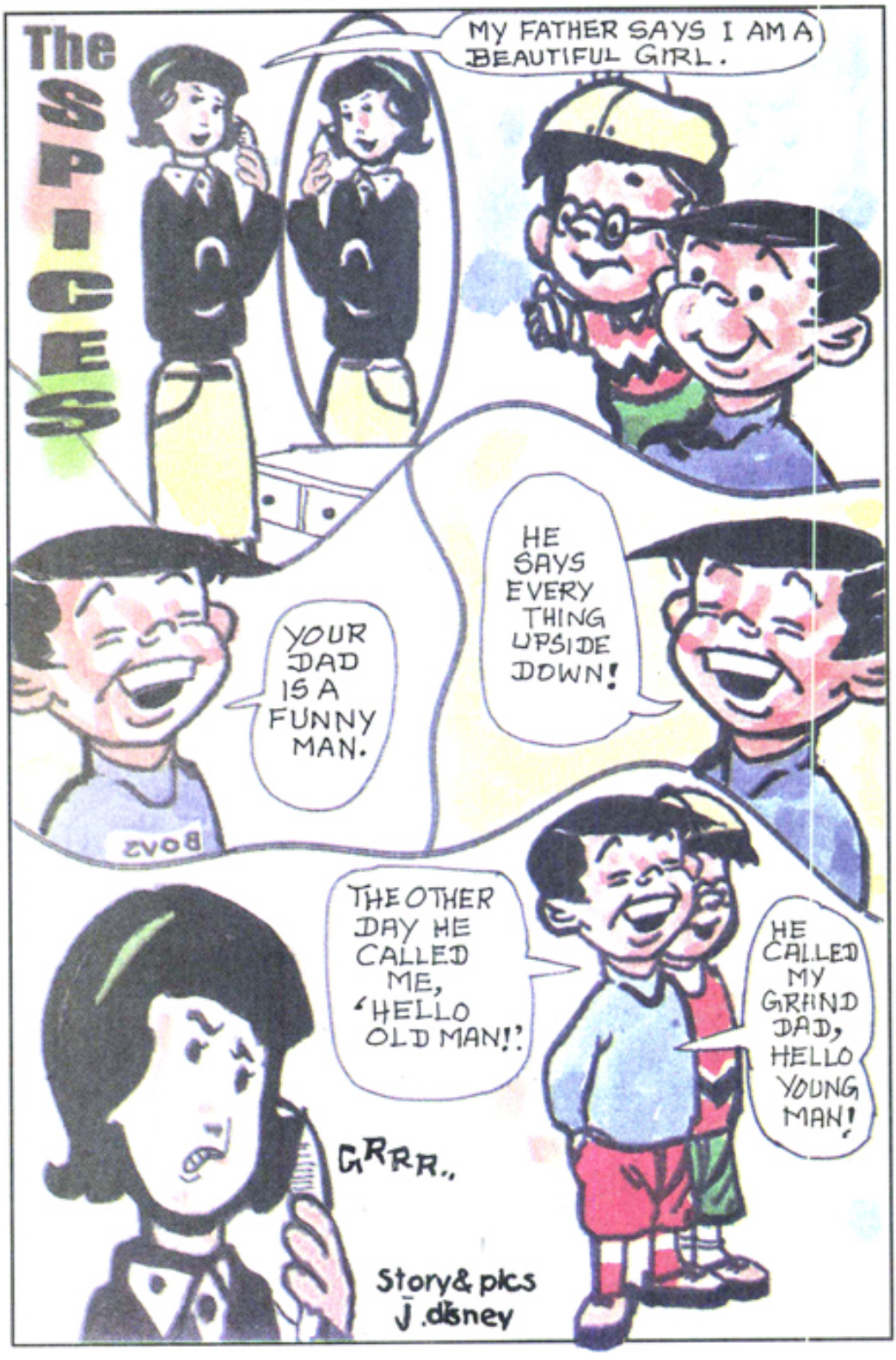
The protective equipments, batting glove, leg-guard, thigh guard and chest guard will differ for a left handed person. The leading end will have more protection for each of the category. For example, a left-handed left thumb will be very thick compared to a right handed right thumb.

What is the role of the coach vs that of the parent or you in buying a kit?

A good coach should be able to harness the potential of the trainee. He should be able to visualise the strength of the child and guide him in such a way so as to get the best out of him. We as traders strive to fulfill the requirements of the trainer whereas the parents in most cases is a major motivator and facilitator.

Tell us a little about yourself and your passion for the game. Did you ever play cricket? When did you start the 'Pavilion'?

'THE PAVILION' was inaugurated by KRISH SRIKKANTH on 3rd September 1988. The promoters of 'THE PAVILION' have played cricket at various levels and are well versed with the nuances and requirements of cricket. We strive hard to fulfil the requirements of professional sports people as well as that of up coming youngsters. We have also produced our own HEMANG BADANI who is the son of one of the promoters. Not only local lads frequent the Pavilion but international stars have also paid us a visit. This passion and our effort to bring the latest cricketing equipment, has made us one of the premier cricket showrooms.


The SALICES
MY FATHER SAYS I AM A BEAUTIFUL GIRL.
YOUR DAD IS A FUNNY MAN.
HE SAYS EVERY THING UPSIDE DOWN!
THE OTHER DAY HE CALLED ME, 'HELLO OLD MAN!'
HE CALLED MY GRAND DAD, HELLO YOUNG MAN!
GRRR.,
Story& pics J.disney

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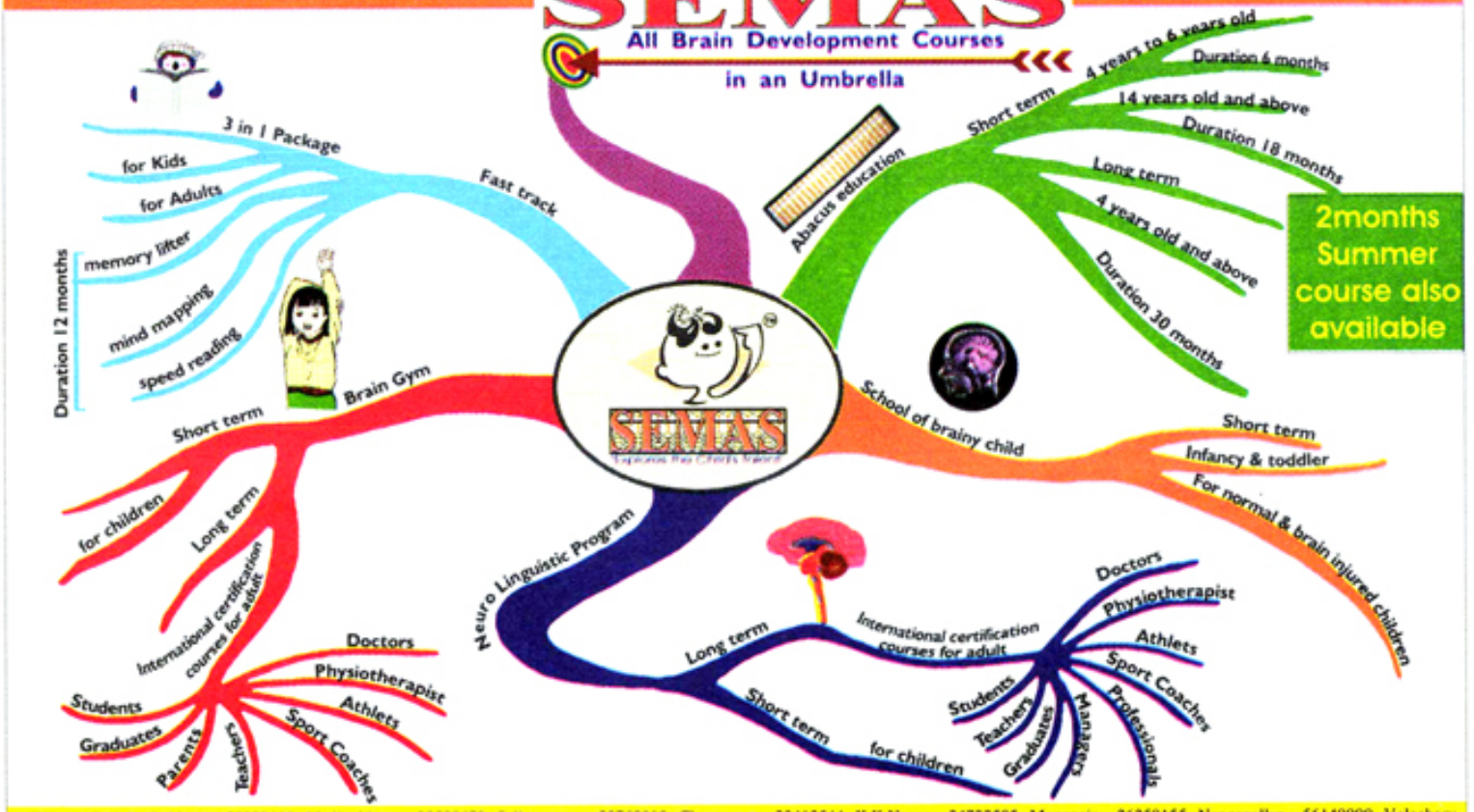

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